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OUTLOOKS

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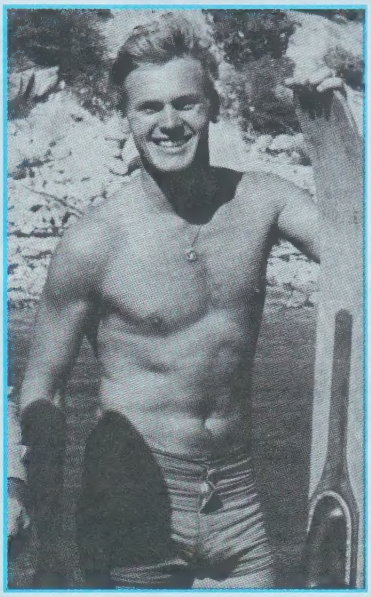
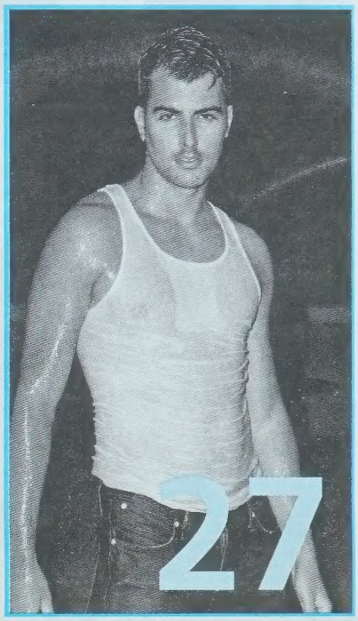
On The Cover:
Tab Hunter on location at the Shaw Park Hotel, Jamaica, 1951.
Photo courtesy Tab Hunter.

what's where

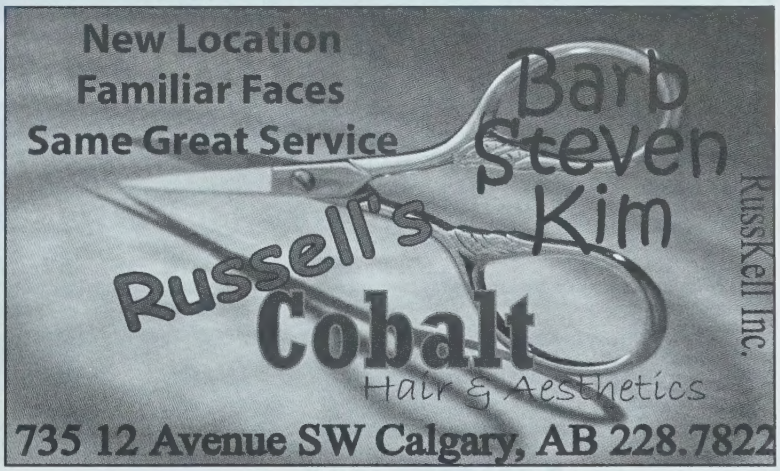


FANTABULOUS:
Tab Hunter revives the Golden Age of Hollywood in his soon to be released autobiography and an exclusive interview with *Outlooks*.



CUTE, GAY AND TALENTED:
Openly gay pop-star Matthew Duffy talks with *Outlooks*.

A STARRY NIGHT FOR FALL:
Entertainment stars come out at night to raise money for the Shooting Stars Foundation in Vancouver.



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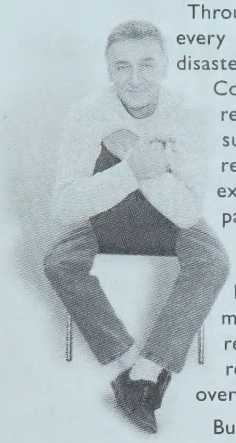
Katrina's Forgotten Survivors

By Roy Heale



Throughout most of the past month of September, almost every newscast around the world included coverage of the disaster caused by hurricane Katrina in the United States Gulf Coast. However, while extensive in scope all of these reports failed to mention the problems and consequent suffering which afflicted approximately eight thousand residents of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. This extensive news reporting included stories detailing how parents were separated from their children, the fact that racial minorities and the poor had been displaced from their simple homes. In addition, these news stories highlighted the fact that senior citizens were for the most part rescued from their residences, the damage and revenue loss to businesses was extensive, pets were rescued from their deserted neighbourhoods and the overall economic ruin of the region.

But what happened to the news items about the many thousands of displaced persons with HIV and AIDS who are without their medications, their doctors, their support system of friends and in some cases the hospice, which they had called home being destroyed by Katrina?

"I'm very frustrated right now," said Noel Twillbeck, Executive Director of the NO/AIDS task Force, the oldest HIV/AIDS Task Force in the Gulf South. "We absolutely have to get people their medication. This is a frightening situation."

Can you imagine arriving at an emergency shelter, far from your home, operated by the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, Second Harvest or a local church group and your very first words as a survivor are something to the effect, "I need HIV/AIDS medication?" Social stigma would only add to the trauma already being suffered under circumstances which are unimaginable to most of us in our everyday lives.

Medical care for most HIV/AIDS patients is very complex and without past medical records the physicians at temporary emergency centres would not be expected to know how to treat each individual patient. The U.S. Federal Department of Health and Human Services has yet to announce a plan to guarantee medication and health care to these particular evacuees. Yet another demonstration of the delay in reaction by the U.S. Government to this national emergency. But in the George Bush administration, it's not a totally surprising situation, given the nature of those affected by the President's inaction.

Fortunately, several drug companies are offering free medications. But with a collapsed infrastructure, there exists a problem to provide the right drugs to the right patient in addition to delivering them to the right location at the right time. This is an enormous logistical challenge for those involved with emergency patient care. Even more concerning is the fact that many of these displaced persons are suddenly finding themselves without prescription insurance as their employers are no longer in business and therefore their health insurance is automatically cancelled without question by the insurers.

Help is not guaranteed even for those who managed to escape to another major city like Houston. The massive influx of HIV/AIDS patients to clinics, which were already understaffed at the time of the disaster, has resulted in the stretching of already limited resources and making hospice accommodation almost impossible to find.

Without question for this particular minority group of Katrina survivors, their future is a greater challenge than anything they have faced to date.

However, over the rainbow there are signs of hope and help on the horizon.

Not surprisingly, coming to the rescue is an organisation from San Francisco known as Under One Roof, aptly named even before Katrina ripped the roofs from so many Gulf Coast homes. Established in 1990 to generate unrestricted funding for AIDS service organizations, this group has created The Above And Beyond Fund to assist HIV/AIDS organisations devastated by hurricane Katrina. Their goal is to assist health facilities in the region to open their doors again as soon as possible. Restoring services to individuals living with HIV/AIDS in their own neighbourhoods by familiar service providers is their top priority.

To date, Under One Roof has distributed more than $3.8 million dollars to seventy HIV/AIDS groups in its fifteen-year history, making it worthy of this new challenge. All funds raised by this initiative will go directly to Katrina's HIV/AIDS victims and their support network of organisations.

At the time of writing this column, the first cheques have been disbursed to qualifying agencies. The hope is for many more to come in the future according to Mike Marshall, Executive Director, Under One Roof.

Now it's time for us to become the good neighbours to our American family South of the border.

Even if you personally donate to other organisations like the Canadian Red Cross, United Way, Salvation Army or other international charities your donation to this cause is important. Not to minimise the efforts or the valuable services provided by these international charities but it will take time for money to filter through their infrastructure to the AIDS/HIV sufferers. Under One Roof will accelerate that process and support other initiatives already underway in the region.

Your donations can be made very simply online at **UnderOneRoof.org** for as little as one dollar and one minute of your time. You may also mail your donations to their office at 549 Castro Street, San Francisco, California, 94114, U.S.A. or call 1-415-503 2303 for further information on their mission and history.

So please, let's all rally round the Rainbow Flag and send our help as quickly as possible. As you are surrounded by everything you find familiar and all the comforts of your own home take a moment to think about those who can no longer enjoy this same sense of security. Your personal donation or a fund raising activity in your community will make a difference in someone's life—someone who is probably not sure what is happening to them next. They face these problems today, tomorrow and well into the future.

Please give generously *now* in order to make tomorrow a better day for so many of our friends south of our border.

Thank you for your generosity from everyone at *Outlooks*. ▼

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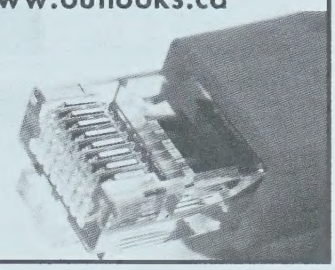

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'Acting' Gay

By John Coulbourn

Governor Arnie's recent veto of legislation legalizing same sex marriage in California notwithstanding, it looks like they've been having a gay old time in Tinseltown (and its satellites) greenlighting motion pictures featuring characters who are a trifle louche in the loafers.

And now, of course, all those greenlighted movies are coming soon, as they say, to a theatre near you.

Which means, sadly we should all just head for cover.

Now, I'm not for a minute suggesting that there is anything wrong with any of the movies in question.

In fact, based on the recommendation of friends who have already seen it, I'm quite excited to see Capote, wherein Philip Seymour Hoffman apparently does a bang-up job of channeling the spirit of the man who immortalized the words: "That's not writing. That's typing."

And as an unrepentant Albertan, director Ang Lee put Brokeback Mountain on my must-see list the very day she decided to film it in the unparalleled glory of our Rocky Mountains—although I have to admit, the angst-riven trailer for her 'homos-on-the-range' oater leaves me thinking that it might be an evening better spent sorting my sock drawer.

Hell, despite all the ennui things Celtic have been known to awake in me, I'm even curious to see Breakfast On Pluto, in which Cillian Murphy plays an Irish transvestite for director Neil Jordan—the same director, you will recall, who freaked out millions of straight males by revealing what no one could ever possibly mistake as the world's largest free-standing clitoris in a movie titled The Crying Game.

Unfortunately, however, with all this gay fodder on offer at the box office, it is inevitable that we will soon be awash in straight actors' ruminations on how tough it is to play gay, accompanied by the obligatory media chorus underlining the belief that surviving a same-sex grope is the ultimate test of one's acting ability.

In fact, it's already started, born in the very moments, it seems, that the lights came up after the first Toronto Film Festival screening of Brokeback Mountain.

In a post-Fest wrap-up, writer Brian D. Johnson quotes star Jake Gyllenhaal in Maclean's, talking about his reaction to the "heated love scenes" he shares with co-star Heath Ledger.

"When I got home," Johnson quotes the poor, tortured (and quite possibly brain-dead) Gyllenhaal as saying, "I felt really violated—to the point that your guts are wrenching and you're in pain."

Well, Jake, I'm no doctor, but I suspect the wrench in your gut and the pain you are feeling have little or nothing to do with the fact that you've been fiddling with somebody else's Ledger or romping in some else's heath and, along with your sense of violation, it all has more to do with the fact that you have to assume such an awkward position to get your head so far up your fundament.

You're an actor, Jakie-boy, and an actor—a decent actor, that is—acts.

While she may have asked you to go someplace you have never been before, Ang Lee did not ask you to cut off an arm or poke out your eye with a dirty stick, either of which would have been painful. What you experienced, Jake, m'lad, sounds more to me like a self-inflicted wound, whereby you used your own ingrained homophobia as a tool for a bit of old-fashioned self-flagellation.

And you thought gays were kinky.

All in all, the world is, frankly, just about as interested in your pain, Jakey as we were in the sense of violation Rock Hudson experienced whenever he had to kiss Doris Day, which is to say, we are not interested at all.

What it all boils down to is this:

If you can't stand the homo heat, bucko, then just get the hell out of the homo kitchen. Maybe then, Hollywood will realize that it is time to quit sending boys to do men's jobs and finally cast a gay man in a gay man's role. ▼

John Coulbourn is a native Albertan who lived for many years in Calgary. He now makes his home in Toronto, where he covers performing arts for the Toronto Sun.

GLCSA
Gay & Lesbian Community Service Association

BETWEEN MEN IS MOVING TIME AND PLACE!

Between Men, a peer-support program for males 18+, will be moving to Tuesdays starting October 4. It will be held at GLCSA from 6 - 8:30 pm.

Heading Out, a social-support program for males 18+, will be resuming on October 14 from 7- 9 pm. It will be held the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at GLCSA.

For more information, contact GLCSA at the phone number and address found below.

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Dumpster Divas: *A West-End Slo-Pitch Association (WESA) event held on Pacific Cup Weekend at the Odyssey Nightclub, September 3rd.*

Brad

Planning an event in Vancouver? Contact Barry at (604) 685-1377 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.

Photos By: Barry Piersdorff

Dogwood Monarchist Society (court) toasts GVNCS princess, September 3rd, at the Dufferin Hotel

On Your Knees!

Vancouver Burrard MLA Lorne Mayencourt (right) feeds Rob breakfast

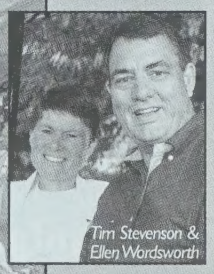
DoSiDo!

Square Dancing at Pumpjack

Davie Day!

Kim Kuzma performs

The crowds enjoy Davie Day

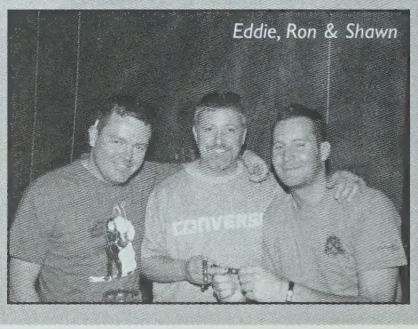

Tim Stevenson & Ellen Wordsworth

Play Balls!

Pacific Cup: *Opening night events for the West-End Slo-Pitch Association's (WESA) annual tournament included the fundraising sale of blue leather cockrings.*

Rus and Shawn

Jerry and his Wonder Woman thing


Eddie, Ron & Shawn

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It's Leather Time

By Shaun Proulx

Here's something that men who love men across this great country of ours can enjoy: Eighteen Men. That's the name of the new calendar launched recently at the Black Eagle by Mr. Leatherman Toronto 2005, Sean Cribbin. Not your typical Chippendale prototype, it's an eighteen-month tribute to real men in all their different colours, shapes and sizes. Cribbin's organization of choice during his reign was the mentoring program SOY—Supporting Our Youth Toronto—and that's where funds raised will go. You can order your copy by surfing to **eighteenmen.com**.

You know the movie sucks when not even Madonna, sitting next to you in support, can help control the snickers going on in the dark during the screening. In town last month for the Toronto International Film Festival, Guy Richie's wife stole the show when she appeared with him on the red carpet at the premiere of his film, Revolver. But the ABBA sampler's star power ended there; the Revolver audience didn't care who was in the house and were not kind. Wonder if the power couple made it to the fest-fete celebrating a/k/a Tommy Chong, where 200 pot brownies baked by the Toronto Hemp Company were served?

Gentlemen, polish your leather. This month sees the annual preliminary competitions taking place at local businesses like Zelda's, The Black Eagle and Woody's; guys will compete to represent at the Mr. Leatherman Toronto 2006 Competition next month. The competition weekend, which includes social shin-dings galore, an educational seminar series, a leather market, the MLT 2006 competition itself and a big blow out called the Victory Ball, is one of our community's social events of the fall season.

So, too, is Northbound Leather's annual fetish party, October 22 at The Docks. It's time again for another pervy party, this time called Climax, but regular attendees shouldn't expect the usual forty-five minute fashion show. Instead, watch for storytelling and vignettes Northbound Leather-style. Producer George Giaouris and Co. are planning to push the envelope as far as possible "without getting arrested", and this is a man who doesn't joke around. Medical play, mummification, an insane asylum scene, shaving scene and fire-play are all fetishes to be staged. Takes the edge of off a simple piss scene, doesn't it?

Of course, this month also brings that gay High Holiday, Halloween. I know of a pair of lads who have been at work since the end of August on their Good/Evil costume. Church Street will once again be closed to traffic that night and it's expected the community will descend en masse to find out who's wearing what. I'll never forget last year when there seemed like a dozen pairs of Siegfried and Roy's-with a white stuffed tiger in mid-chomp attached to each Roy's neck.

And finally, please indulge this plug directly targeting *Outlooks*' Toronto readers: With Thanksgiving celebrations coming up and pie likely on the menu, consider supporting Pie In The Sky, the annual Toronto People With AIDS Foundation fundraiser. Top chefs from around Toronto donate gourmet apple and pumpkin pies, with sale proceeds going to support PWA's Food For Life Program. Ten meals for people homebound with HIV/AIDS are provided via every $35 pie sold. Visit **torontopieinthesky.com** to place an order. ▼

Shaun Proulx is a Toronto writer who contributes to The Globe And Mail, is Publisher and Editor of GayGuideToronto.com and is a feature contributor and columnist (Cocktail Confessions) with Xtra.

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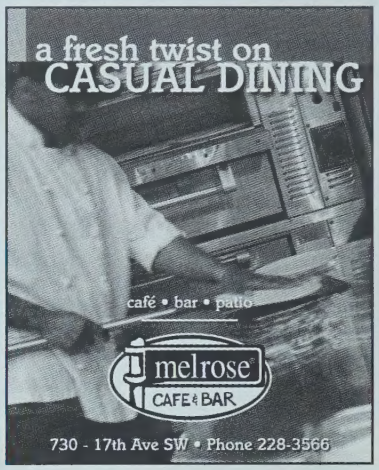

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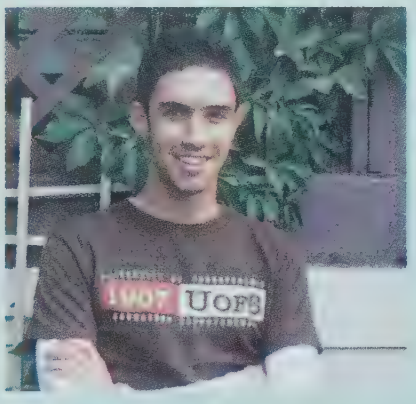
Dan



This 19 year old lives in Saskatoon. He is currently attending the University of Saskatchewan to work toward becoming a social worker.

Dan is a competitive hip hop dancer and does local modelling and acting.

Shot on location in Saskatoon

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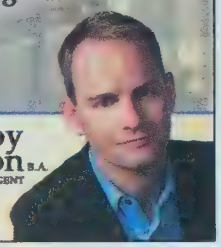

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A Starry Night for Fall

By Josh Murray

Fall has clearly arrived in Vancouver. The temperature has dropped, the rain has returned and the clouds are hanging low overhead. But the gloomy forecast doesn't mean that we aren't looking forward to at least one more Starry Night this season. The Shooting Stars Foundation's annual fundraiser, Starry Night, will again fill the Stanley Theatre in November with its exceptional effort and incredible talent.

The annual event has become a staple in both the arts and fundraising communities in Vancouver during its twenty year run—and for good reason. Created in 1985 as a theatrical and musical means of fundraising for local HIV/AIDS charities, Starry Night continues to draw incredibly loyal audiences that return year in and year out. They are drawn by the unique energy and enthusiasm displayed by each and every one of the performers at the event as well as those working behind the scenes.

"We began as a single event just twenty short years ago," explains the Shooting Stars Foundation's Executive Director Kendra Sprinkling. "A lot of groups produce a single charity event but that is our sole purpose—to produce unusual events that have appeal because of their uniqueness," she says.

Starry Night benefits the Shooting Stars Foundation. Incorporated in 1995, the foundation is a special events organization that strives to bring that 'uniqueness' to life in engaging ways to raise funds for a number of local charities in great need of support.

"Essentially," explains Sprinkling, "we are a special events company that raises money, as frugally as possible, to disburse to groups that are often overlooked or neglected."

Starry Night, like a handful of other events that the foundation stages each year, collects valuable and desperately needed donations for eight local HIV/AIDS charities. The beneficiaries range from A Loving Spoonful, which provides nutritious meals to those living with HIV and AIDS, to the McLaren Housing Society, which strives to provide the same group with affordable housing, which is so hard to find now in the Greater Vancouver area. In 2004, the Shooting Stars Foundation donated a record-breaking $67,500 to exceptional local charitable groups, who would most likely not be able to host such events themselves given budget and staffing constraints.

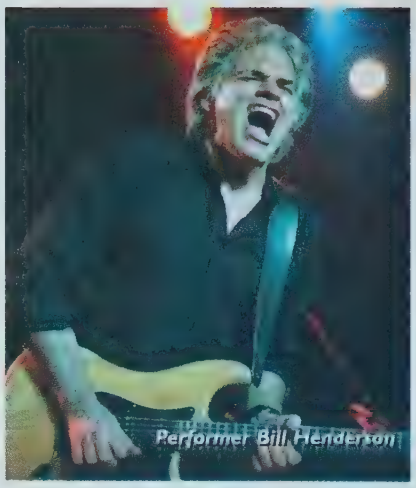
"Most charities are fuelled by volunteers and corporate sponsorships. If they weren't, there wouldn't be any money to give away at the end of the day," says Sprinkling. "I think we have to take care of our own."

And Sprinkling has been doing just that for years now. She, herself, was a performer at the first Starry Night after friend David Harrison, the revenue developer for the Arts Club Theatre, asked her to appear as a performer in a one-night fundraiser. Ten years later, Harrison himself succumbed to AIDS, but not before asking Kendra to take on the charge and continue working to bring Starry Night to the stage each year.

The lengthy time with the charity, though, is sometimes less a celebration and more a constant reminder that we are all still struggling to overcome the challenges of a ruthless disease. "For me personally…it is bittersweet," reflects Sprinkling. "We never expected that we would still be needing to raise funds for AIDS in twenty years. At the same time, the amount of support we receive is quite moving to me."

That support often comes from a variety of locally, nationally and even internationally known artists, actors, musicians and performers who crowd the Starry Night stage each year. Previous guest performers at the event have run the gamut from renowned Canadian actress and director Helen Shaver to Britain's legendary Sir Ian McKellen.

The arts community, in particular, comes together for these causes quite unlike any other community. And this fact has not been lost on Sprinkling and her supporters. "There is something in the genes that creates an artist that makes them want to help in the best way they can," she says. "Generally, they are artists because they love what they do and if it can raise money for something they care about—look out!"


Performer Bill Henderson

The sentiment is echoed by local rhythm and blues legend Sibel Thrasher. Currently performing throughout China, Thrasher will be returning to the Starry Night stage again this November to take part. She can certainly see how important the event has also become to those involved. "We, as entertainers, love to show our love for others like this. We are strong that way," she says. "We come together and sing and dance and act to help others to feel better, feel happier, feel stronger."

But the evening is not simply a treat for performers, who raise money by doing what 'they love to do'. It also is a joy for those that attend. "It is essentially a variety show that includes seasoned performers and up-and-comers, who give it their all," explains Sprinkling. "It [has] a lot of heart…often a little cheeky and not too precious. Authentic and soulful at the same time," she continues.

That 'soul' has audiences returning each year, eager to help but also to be entertained. And the audience continues to grow. "In the infant days of the disease—the gay community was entirely supportive of Starry Night and we have maintained a lot of that base," says Sprinkling. "At the same time, we have been able to reach out to the community at large. Many of the guests who attend the show have been coming for years and treat the event as a way to say hello to people that they now regard as friends."

A number of local charities provide exceptional fundraising events and the Shooting Stars Foundation has recognized the need to keep one step ahead of the crowd by providing truly unique offerings. Starry Night is but one of their annual presentations. "We are trying to create events that pique interest in different niches", explains Sprinkling. "We do a show called Fit for a Queen that was a sell-out the first year and will continue to do very well because there are a lot of people that see drag in Vegas and love it but don't know about all the great shows happening in Vancouver." She continues, "Motown Meltdown is a huge show—where else can you hear an eleven-piece band and thirty singers all performing great versions of old classics? You have to have an angle to survive and we are trying to take that into consideration with every event that we produce."

Performer Leora Cashe

It is not simply public support Sprinkling and the Shooting Stars Foundation count on each and every year. Corporate sponsors are a big part of charitable success in Vancouver and Starry Night is no different. Title sponsor Vancity is back again this year and Sprinkling couldn't be happier. "Some people feel that a charity is selling out when they allow a corporation to become involved," she says. "But if you are very careful who you become partners with, in terms of their mandate and mission statement, it can be an absolutely wonderful fit. I am very proud to be involved with Vancity. They…give money to groups that are not the 'easy' organizations to fund and I applaud that."

As the years have progressed and the foundation has become more established, one would hope that the work has become easier. Alas, in a day when natural disasters and violent movements across the globe continue to dominate the news, the work never becomes simple. "It is never easy. I lose hair and sleep with each new production, as I'm sure all producers do," says Sprinkling. But Vancouver might just be the right place to continue the struggle. "This has become a very sophisticated city, I think, and people are generally interested in artistic endeavours," says Sprinkling. Then she adds, "It is a city with a heart."

And the astounding line-up is full of performers who share the same attitude. Vocalist Sibel Thrasher, for example, concurs. "As a performer," she says, "the opportunity to share with so many others is definitely a blessed treat."

And so, Starry Night might just be the perfect artistic and charitable event for local fans—by truly exemplifying how connected we all are. "At the risk of sounding totally corny," says Kendra Sprinkling finally, "there is a sense of 'oneness' in the theatre and it is felt by everyone involved."

Josh Murray is a Vancouver-based writer, ad exec. and all-around good time. For more, log onto www.joshmurray.ca

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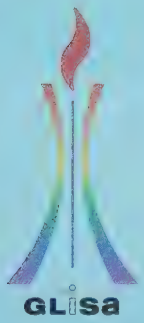

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Throwing Rainbow Rocks

By Jeremy Shragge

If one had to list the sports in which openly gay and lesbian athletes have famously excelled, one could do worse than tennis (Bill Tilden, voted in 1950 as the Associated Press's greatest tennis player of the half-century), diving (Greg Louganis, quadruple Olympic goal medallist), figure skating (Rudy Galindo, 1996 US men's champion) and swimming (Mark Tewksbury, Canadian Olympic gold medallist).

Whether straight athletes or the mainstream media wish to acknowledge it, gay and lesbian competitors shine at the highest levels of virtually every sport known to man or beast.

But curling?

Absolutely, according to Evelyn Porter, President of Edmonton's Curling with Pride.

"This sport was made for us: the terminology, the lingo—it's just hilarious" he states emphatically.

(It is not difficult to see that an ice sport whose players regularly bellow the words "Hard! Hurry Hard!" would find some measure of favour in Canada's gay community.)

In addition to his duties as CWP President, Porter is also one of the chief organisers of Rainbow Rocks: The First Canadian Gay Curling Championships, which takes place at Edmonton's Shamrock Curling Club, November 11-13.

The bonspiel hopes to draw the top two teams from queer curling leagues in Canada's seven largest cities (Toronto, Montréal, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Ottawa and Winnipeg) plus two wildcard entries.

Held in conjunction with CWP's annual Icebreaker bonspiel, the championship is the centrepiece of a full weekend of socials, club nights, breakfasts and thrilling curling action.

Although Rainbow Rocks may not quite attract the level of competition (or sponsorship) of the Tim Horton's Brier or Scott Tournament of Hearts, CWP Past-President Bryan Evans is certain that the level of play will be outstanding.

"I think we're going to have curling that would give any curling organisation across the country a run for their money. We have some amazing curling teams in the gay leagues from coast to coast. And it's going to be quite exciting to see them all show up in Edmonton and throw some rocks. I think it's going to be great. I think it's going to be as good… as you'll find anywhere."

According to both Porter and Evans, the idea for a Canadian gay curling championship evolved from discussions held at Calgary's Apollo Western Cup several years back. The purpose of the original dialogue, explains Evans, was to find ways to encourage gay curling teams from the major centres to travel to the smaller cities' annual bonspiels.

"We were looking at having teams that were members of leagues across the country—they might gather points for every bonspiel they went to across Canada and different centres would be awarded different points," he says.

"So if you went to Vancouver you might get five points for your team, and if you came to Edmonton or Winnipeg, for example, you might get thirty points. And at the end of the year there might be a pool that the team that gathered the most points by going to the most bonspiels across the country would win a prize. That was where it started; that was our initial incentive."

The selection of Edmonton as inaugural host was based on several factors, says Porter, not the least of which was the capital's rabid curling tradition (the 2005 Brier smashed attendance records).

Yet despite the city's infatuation with the sport, the organisers of the championship continue to struggle with finding sponsors. Rainbow Rocks is after all a gay event being held in a medium sized Alberta city, concedes a somewhat disappointed Porter,

While he is not expecting much support from the business community this year, Porter feels that the potential exists, especially if the event were to be hosted by bigger cities in the future, for commercial sponsorship.

"We are not a corporate headquarters here for some of the, if you will, 'name brand' corporations in Canada (if not globally), as [are] Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto," Porter says.

"All three of those centres, because we're all in this together, are working at it—I can't tell you how hard!—but, they are working at corporate sponsorship for the nationals in their respective centres."

Securing financial support from businesses likely will play a crucial role in any plans for Rainbow Rocks' future expansion, one of the main obstacles to which, not surprisingly, is the expense of flying in teams from distant cities.

Edmonton teams practicing

"It may well be that next year it could be in Montréal or Ottawa," notes Porter, "and we're going to have trouble getting two teams to go for cost reasons."

Despite there not being an established, recognised national gay curling organisation, both Evans and Porter feel that Rainbow Rocks has great potential to evolve into a recognised event on the Canadian queer sporting calendar.

"Hopefully one day curling will become part of—and maybe that's where this will end up— the Gay Games; that the Canadian champion represents Canada at the gay games," says a hopeful Evans.

"That would be an incredible journey for this sport to take." ▼

Jeremy Shragge is a freelance writer and cancer researcher in Edmonton, Alberta.

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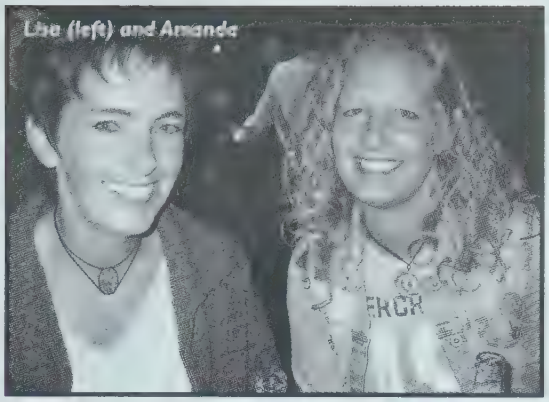
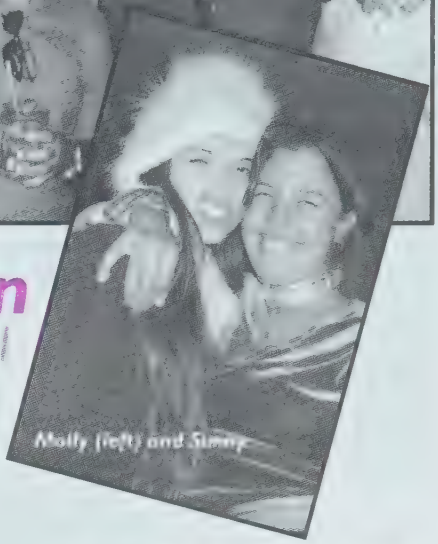

Lisa (left) and Amanda

From left: Patrick, Phil, Tym, Troy

Caption (left) and Heather


Molly (left) and Sunny

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Tab embraces Divine in Polyester

fantABUlous!

By Outlooks Staff

One of the biggest screen idols of the 1950s and a singer whose number one chart hits occurred at the same time as his box office success, Tab Hunter superstar seemed to have it all before he was twenty-five years old. Progressing from a stableboy on weekends and watching movies when he could afford the price of a ticket, at the age of nineteen Art Gelien was discovered by a Hollywood agent who transformed him into Tab Hunter and stardom awaited just around the corner.

The Warner Bros. Studio publicity machine kicked into high gear with their new "beefcake" discovery. Very soon Tab was appearing on-screen, off-screen and on every newsstand in North America accompanied by the biggest leading ladies of the day—including Debbie Reynolds, Natalie Wood, Sophia Loren and Tallulah Bankhead–while dealing with the reality of being gay in a time when the word did not even exist.

Anthony Perkins (left) in conversation with Tab

Amidst a secret relationship with Anthony (*Psycho*) Perkins plus friendships with James Dean and Rudolf Nureyev, the life of this young number-one box office attraction proved to be tumultuous. Fifty years later and now with his business and life partner, Allan Glaser, Tab keeps busy producing movies and riding his beloved horses on weekends. After recovering from quadruple heart by-pass surgery and a stroke, he now lives in Santa Barbara, California.

In a career that included over fifty films, an equal number of singles and albums recorded, his own television show and numerous guest appearances on prime time series plus theatre throughout North America, Tab Hunter became an icon.

Recently, *Outlooks* caught up with Tab at his Santa Barbara home for an exclusive interview in which he reflects upon his amazing career and the rollercoaster ride that led to his contentment today.

Outlooks: At an early age you discovered two great loves in your life, horses and movies. Is that still true today?

Hunter: I still enjoy horse riding on the weekends and I have a mare in Santa Fe that I will be bringing home to California soon perhaps for some breeding. I've judged and showed around the world including Vancouver, B.C. and Calgary. I find this involvement raising and training horses has always given me a touch of reality in an unrealistic world. As for my love of the movies, it's hard to get films off the ground for an independent producer today but we're currently working on a couple of good projects.

Outlooks: Your career has spanned more then fifty years through many different phases. What was your overall favourite period?

Hunter: The most gratifying was live television. In the movies and taped T.V. shows, you might repeat a scene several times until the director was happy. Sometimes over and over and over! But when it was live, there was no second chance. It was frightening but the most rewarding. Plus in T.V. I worked with brilliant people like Mary Tyler Moore and Elizabeth Montgomery and many talented actors.

Outlooks: You are blessed with good looks, a great singing voice and a dynamic physique, how did you remain so grounded?

Hunter: Sometimes I was maybe not so grounded. I mean when you're young it's a constant struggle and you imagine everything will go on forever. Of course it doesn't. As you mature you realize that it changes and you have to sort out the real from the unreal.

Outlooks: In your teenage years did you visualize yourself being rich and famous or did you expect to lead an ordinary life?

Hunter: I had no idea what was in store. I was always a dreamer. I loved motion pictures. My love of horses led to dreams of training them and winning top competitions. As I sat in the movie theatre, I dreamed of being up there on the big screen but not necessarily being a big star.

Outlooks: The fact that you were a young gay man and enjoyed some freedom from responsibilities did this influence your goals or drive you to succeed?

Hunter: I always wanted a close family. It was very important for me to have a loving family. This meant I was living two lives, my movie life and my hidden life.

Outlooks: Your friends during your early career included Anthony Perkins, James Dean, Natalie Wood, Debbie Reynolds and your co-stars included John Wayne, Paul Newman, Sophia Loren and many more famous actors. How did you cope in your early twenties amongst such stars?

Hunter: Well it was a strange feeling to be working with such big names. I never wanted to fall short in my work or let any of them down. They were such high-calibre actors and I was just starting. Also, the press could be so hurtful in their comparisons and criticisms. That was a great incentive for me to always try my hardest and always do my best work. My favourites to work with were Gary Cooper, Van Heflen and Fred Astaire. They were the greatest to make you feel at home and were good friends.

Rudolf Nureyev (right) and Tab on the Tonight

Outlooks: In those early days of tabloid journalism you were victim to their sensationalism but not for being gay. How did you cope with the awful publicity about your dog?

Hunter: Actually there were many hints about my being gay and I hated their style of constantly being vicious. My good friend and agent Dick Clayton was always supportive and gave sound advice on how to

continued opposite

from previous cope with them and survive.

Outlooks: Your starring role in the movie *Damn Yankees* was a major role in your career. How did you land this important lead part over the Broadway star of the original stage musical?

Hunter: Well, all of the other major cast members were from the stage show so it was very difficult for me as the outsider. The director didn't want me and he made it clear he was unhappy. It was very difficult for me. But Warner Bros. insisted they purchased *Pillow Talk* for Rock Hudson & Doris Day and *Damn Yankees* for me and that was just the way it was going to be!

Outlooks: You co-starred with a very young Jean Stapleton and her character in *Damn Yankees* appeared like a young Edith Bunker in training for her future role in *All In The Family*. Was it strange for you years later to see her in the hit television series?

Hunter: Yes. I liked Jean very much and she was fun to work with. She was perfect for the role of Edith Bunker and it was very similar to her character in *Damn Yankees*. She just fit both parts.

Outlooks: How was the great, yet sometimes difficult, choreographer Bob Fosse to work with?

Hunter: To me he was wonderful, never difficult. Course I told him right away I had two left feet! He was very patient with me. He just kept at it 'till I finally learned to dance his way.

Outlooks: During your dinner theatre performances you traveled to Canada for performances in Regina and Edmonton in the winter and froze. Did you ever return when the weather was more temperate?

Hunter: Oh yes! I love Canada. I've skied in Jasper and Lake Louise. Mind you, I got frostbite on my nose in Jasper! In Calgary, I worked on a Disney movie, which was being shot during Stampede. Horse competitions have taken me to Calgary and Vancouver, B.C. where I loved the combination of the oceans and the mountains. I've even driven from Calgary to Vancouver and enjoyed those beautiful sights. I have friends who have competed at Spruce Meadows and I'd love to see that. Canada has so much to offer everyone, especially gays.

Tab and Natalie Wood on her 18th birthday

Outlooks: When you co-starred in *Polyester* with Divine, a female impersonator, did it cause much controversy or reaction from your associates at the time?

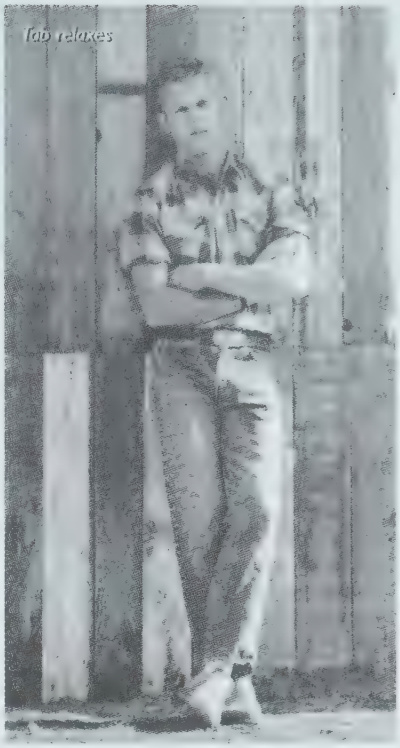
Hunter: Well my manager at the time was against it. I love John Waters' work and I loved Divine so I did it because I wanted to and it didn't matter what anyone else thought. Divine was one of my favorite leading ladies right up there with Sophia Loren, Rita Hayworth and Lana Turner. Because of *Polyester* Divine and I starred together again in *Lust In The Dust* the comedy western that Allan and I co-produced as our first film together.

Outlooks: Your very first day as a new contract actor for Warner Bros. studio, you visited Rock Hudson on the soundstage for his first film *Fighter Squadron*. Years later, he was one of your neighbours at the time of his death. How did this impact upon you?

Hunter: I had heard that he was suffering from AIDS and was shocked. A producer friend and I arranged to visit with him in hospital. He was so frail and ill that I was taken aback. But he died shortly afterwards and it did so much to raise awareness for the need for AIDS research. He was a great man whom we lost too soon.

Outlooks: You became known as one of the "beefcake" stars of the 1950s. Did you work out every day?

Hunter: No. I was a great swimmer and all-around fitness buff but I like a natural look. I don't like to see the people who look as though they just zipped on a second skin that's rippled with muscles. My mother always said, "Just be an individual." That's what I tried to be. Natural bodies look the best. I hated working out but now it's important for my health.


Tab relaxes

Outlooks: Do you think famous people like Rosie O'Donnell and Ellen or shows like *Will & Grace* or the movie *Philadelphia* have made it easier today for young gay and lesbian actors?

Hunter: It's important that same-sex orientation is out there for people to see and understand. I don't like it when it's really in your face and too extreme. Everything has a time and place with no need to flaunt your own sexuality. Simply do the best you can in life. Do it your own way—straight or gay.

Outlooks: It's 2005 and if you were nineteen years old today what would you do differently with all the progress for same-sex equality?

Hunter: I don't envy young people in the movie and entertainment business today. Every move they make is watched by the media. They're always looking for the negatives and overlook the positives. You still have to be careful and work hard to maintain a private life no matter what your sexual orientation is. It was fascinating being a part of the Golden Age of Hollywood and it offered me vast opportunities to travel and enjoy the good life. I do wonder what has happened to style and subtlety today. ▼

For further information about Tab Hunter and his career, visit www.tabhunter.com. At press time, Tab Hunter was scheduled to appear on CNN's Larry King Live during October and ABC's Good Morning America (October 14). Check your local television listings for program times.

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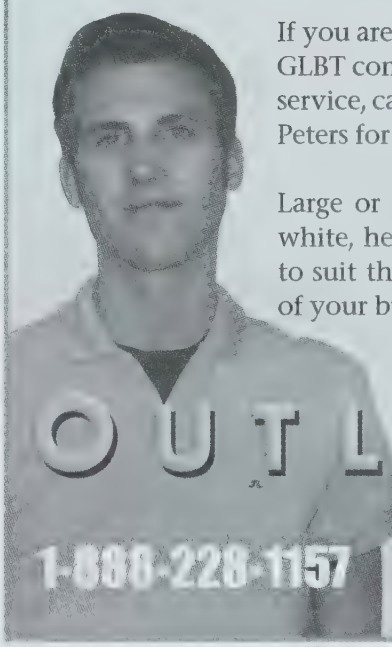

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An Historic Past

By Megan Morman

Like Alberta, the province of Saskatchewan celebrates its one-hundredth birthday in 2005. Its centennial is being commemorated with a new chronology documenting the history of the province's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and two-spirited communities.

Saskatoon archivist Neil Richards spent the summer compiling information for Celebrating a History of Diversity: Lesbian and Gay Life in Saskatchewan, 1971-2005. His work, being published this fall, will serve as an annotated reference to thirty-four years of GLBT social, political and cultural activities.

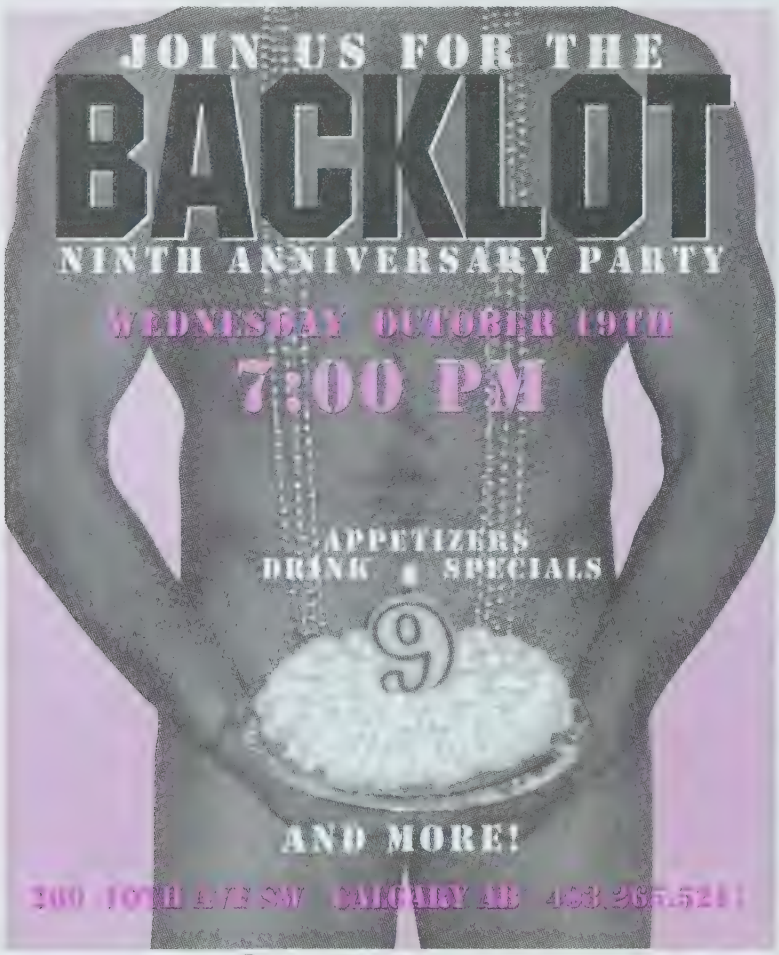
The project was supported by the Avenue Community Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity (formerly Gay & Lesbian Health Services) through funding from the provincial department of Culture, Youth and Recreation. Lottery-funded Centennial grants were available for projects highlighting Saskatchewan's diverse cultural heritage and were received by several GLBT organizations.

Richards jumped on his chance to complete the project while funding was available. Beginning in May, he spent three months sifting through newspaper clippings and newsletters, many of which he himself had collected over the years.

"I tried not to begin with my memory and opinions, but to rely on printed sources", says Richards, sitting in the Special Collections reading room at the University of Saskatchewan Library, where he worked until his retirement in 2002.

Richards has served as a volunteer archivist of GLBT material for over thirty years, and during that time has preserved several generations of social, cultural, and organizational history. The Saskatchewan Archives Board's Neil Richards Collection contains over sixteen linear meters of material, spanning the years 1957-2004. Richards has also been an active advocate and curator, coordinating activities for HIV-awareness initiatives Visual AIDS and the Day With(out) Art. In 1982 he co-authored *Out on the Shelves*, a library selection guide to gay and lesbian fiction; his 2003 exhibit All Frocked Up traced the history of cross-dressing in rural and urban Saskatchewan.

Although Richards began his research with gay media sources such as Saskatoon-based Perceptions and Regina's lesbian newsletter *Sensible Shoes News*, he preferred to reference mainstream media sources whenever possible, as they are often more accessible.



1978 Metamorphosis rally, Saskatoon

"The goal here was to provide simple answers to the what, where, when and how questions traditionally posed by journalists," he writes in the introduction to *Celebrating a History of Diversity*. "I refrained from speculating about motives, or analyzing meanings."

But in assembling the chronology, Richards aimed to dig more deeply than coverage of the frequent political battles which have been most likely to attract attention from mainstream media outlets. It's the little things that seem to appeal most to Richards—the small resistances and flourishing local culture that have kept communities going during the difficult political times and AIDS crises of the 1980s and '90s.

Included is information about a variety of cultural and social activities including theatre, film, literature and visual art, as well as milestones in the development of GLBT organizations.

According to Richards, Saskatchewan communities have long been active producers of their own unique brand of culture, influenced by rural/urban dichotomies, traditions of social conservatism and progressive populist politics. It makes for dense reading: a single page about 1978 touches on events as diverse as Florida orange juice spokesperson and anti-gay advocate Anita Bryant's visit to Moose Jaw, Saskatoon's Metamorphosis thanksgiving cultural festival and the opening of Prince Albert's Gay Community Centre.

Richards made a special effort to include sources from rural areas and smaller cities such as Moose Jaw, although printed references from outside Regina and Saskatoon were rare. Historically even very organized gay communities have had trouble receiving equitable media coverage; gay life in rural areas easily slips under the radar.

He admits that this is a drawback of relying on printed reference sources. However, oral histories may be factually unreliable and just as unavailable as written histories. Among the realities of GLBT life outside large urban centres is that of outmigration; many early activists and elders who have not been lost have since relocated to larger centres such as Vancouver, Calgary, and Toronto.

Richards also warns that the collection, by its nature, may underemphasize the role of organizations and businesses such as bars and coffee shops, whose stability rarely make headlines even within the GLBT community, but remain as cornerstones of Saskatchewan gay life.

Richards' wasn't the only work done this summer on prairie GLBT history. UofS historian Valerie Korinek is currently in the process of writing a book which takes a more qualitative approach toward the development of gay communities. Her research, several years in the making, uses personal interviews to compare and contrast the parallel development of organized GLBT communities in the three prairie provinces.

In June, an updated version of Toronto bibliographer Alex Spence's index Perceptions: the first twenty-two years, 1983-2004 was published; his work provides a comprehensive cross-referenced guide to the Saskatoon newsmagazine.

Celebrating a History of Diversity will be distributed free of charge to libraries, schools, academics, and politicians across Saskatchewan. Richards hopes that it will become a valuable reference and stepping off point for researchers, as well as students looking to learn more about their province's GLBT stories.

Richards would like Saskatchewan's newcomers and young people to know that advances in GLBT rights did not simply filter down from large centres like Toronto and San Francisco. He writes, "Although the province's GLBT people have naturally been influenced by national and international events and by the global media, they have never been just passive consumers or simple imitators of a more urban queer culture."

Both print and online versions of the chronology will be published in early November. Print copies will be available at the ACC office in Saskatoon by calling (306) 665-1224 or visiting www.glhs.ca. A searchable online version will be hosted by the UofS Library at its website Saskatchewan Resources for Sexual Diversity: **library.usask.ca/spcoll/srsd**. ▼

Megan Morman likes lemonheads and rhubarb rock; she can be found online at http://www.populust.calladylady

First Gay Wedding in PEI

By Outlooks Staff

Two women recently made history by becoming the first same-sex couple to legally wed on Prince Edward Island. Dr. Chris Zarow and Constance Majeau tied the knot at an intimate service in Vernon Bridge. Zarow is an assistant professor of neurology at the University of Southern California. Her spouse, Majeau, a classical musician, was born in Montréal, but her roots are planted firmly in eastern P.E.I. Majeau's grandfather, Elijah Pierce, who lived in Elmira, was a blacksmith and farrier in his day.

Chris (left) with Connie and their marriage certificate

Zarow could not hold back her tears as the couple stood in a floral garden at the Rainbow Lodge to exchange their vows. The sound of water flowing from a fabricated pond could be heard in the background as Rev. Barry King of the P.E.I. Interfaith Ministry carried out the service.

"Today we celebrate the beginning of a journey for Connie and Chris," said Rev. King. "This journey is filled with joy because it's filled with love. Connie and Chris chose this path because they love each other." Following prayers and the exchange of vows, Zarow and Majeau exchanged simple gold rings. A kiss sealed the service, which was held under clear blue skies. If it weren't for the brightly coloured gay flag flying in the background, it would have looked like any other outdoor wedding.

"I hereby pronounce you married partners in life," proclaimed Rev. King. However, the couple's journey to the altar in P.E.I. wasn't without a struggle. The law legalizing same-sex marriage in all ten provinces and three territories was proclaimed on July 20, but P.E.I. government officials said the paperwork hadn't been completed which caused a further delay here.

Zarow and Majeau were visiting P.E.I. for a family reunion and wanted to get married then. But they were told they could not get a marriage licence. The issue went before cabinet on the Tuesday. The couple was told they might be able to get a licence following that cabinet meeting but that didn't happen either.

Frustrated, Zarow and Majeau left for Nova Scotia Wednesday to get married over there. Licences have been handed out in that province for months. But before leaving P.E.I., they stopped into Vital Statistics in Montague and while there, they filled out an application for a marriage licence anyway.

From Nova Scotia, Zarow decided to make one last attempt to have her dream of being married in P.E.I. fulfilled. She called the Premier's Office, Attorney General's Office and the Department of Health, which oversees Vital Statistics, Thursday morning.

"I told the Premier's office that I had been in to apply for a marriage licence and other couples were given their marriage licences and I was not," Zarow said. "They walked away happy and I didn't."

The California couple was resigned to getting married in Nova Scotia. But late Thursday afternoon, Zarow said she got the word she was waiting to hear. Health Minister Chester Gillan had approved the necessary changes and the marriage licence was waiting for them. Zarow and Majeau took the ferry back to P.E.I. Friday morning, staff from Vital Statistics agreed to come into the office on the holiday, Gold Cup Day, to give them their licence, and friends scrambled to get the ceremony ready for Friday afternoon.

Zarow said she is pleased she's made it easier for other gays and lesbians to marry in P.E.I. "From now on any couple can walk into the Vital Statistics office and simply fill out the paperwork as simply as anyone else," said Zarow. "No one else will have to fight this battle."

Majeau said her heart is still in P.E.I. and that's why she wanted to get married here. Her cousin, Justice Jacqueline Matheson, was going to perform the service had they been able to get married the previous weekend. "When it became a possibility to marry in a place that I call home, it's like never mind Halifax, we're going to the Island," she said.

Rev. King said he's performed many spiritual unions between same-sex couples, but this was the first official same-sex marriage in P.E.I. It won't be the last. "I think it's great," said Rev. King. "Two loving individuals should be able to be together." ▼

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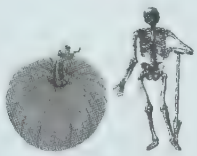

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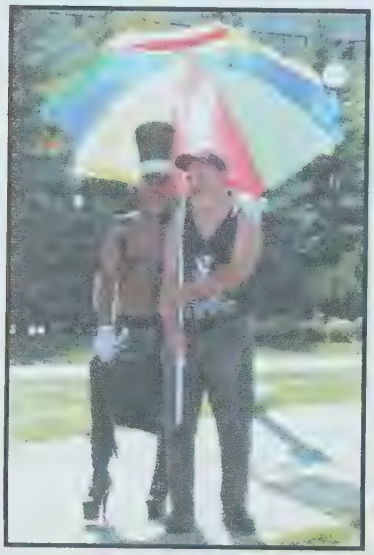

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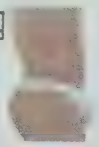

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Holiday the Gay Way

By Lino DiNallo

Travel agents. They're the unsung heroes of the travel industry, the ones who put bums in seats so that cute and coy cabin crew can gallivant in Honolulu or layover in Lichtenstein. And Rainbow High Vacations is Canada's largest gay and lesbian travel agency, headed up by Greg Kozdrowski. Recently we sat down to chat about their past, to find out what keeps them busy and to speculate about where business is heading.

Outlooks: Tell us about the set-up of Rainbow High.

Kozdrowski: Everybody in the office is an owner to get a stronger sense of commitment. As the majority shareholder, you could say I'm the boss, but realistically I've got four other partners.

Outlooks: How old is Rainbow High?

Kozdrowski: It was established in 1981, so we'll be celebrating twenty-five years next year. I purchased it with my partner, Ross, in the late 80s. It was really his company, but Ross died about four years ago. Leading up to that, I had to decide if I wanted to carry on the "family business", then as Ross became more ill, I wound down my consulting practice and took on a larger role here. Before that, I had no experience at all.

Outlooks: Did Ross mentor you?

Kozdrowski: He did. And to a large extent, that's been the model we've used for our staff. There are two models in the travel business. Either they hire fresh grads out of travel schools, or they develop their own staff. The second model gives us an opportunity to ensure people learn the skills we think they need to be effective in the business.

Greg Kozdrowski

Outlooks: What's your turnover like?

Kozdrowski: Very low—the last time we had to hire somebody was at least five years ago. Although we're growing and need people to join us this fall—probably one experienced person and one we can train.

Outlooks: How did Rainbow High begin?

Kozdrowski: The business started with a very specific purpose. This advertising agency was doing so many trip giveaways they felt it would be easier to have their own travel company. When they saw that tailing off, they looked for somebody to buy it. That's when we moved in.

Honeymoons in paradise

Outlooks: Do you specialize in anything specific, like packaged vacations?

Kozdrowski: Our specialty is gay and lesbian travel in all its forms. We do packaged vacations, cruises and flights, but an increasing part of our business is our in-house designed programs, available exclusively through us. That's where we expect to see our biggest growth in the next few years. We develop these vacations, as opposed to buying from somebody else and putting our name on it.

Outlooks: How do discount agencies like Flight Centre affect you?

Kozdrowski: When they moved in across the street we were anxious, but then realized we serve very different niche markets. I think we've done a good job in educating consumers that if they want a gay holiday they can't do it at the last minute. They have to shop in advance because there are limited choices, and those choices disappear quickly.

Outlooks: What areas are popular? Circuit parties? Cruises?

Kozdrowski: We're seeing a lot of growth in "traditional" holidays, like a trip to Southern France or Greece, but with a gay sensibility in the content and itinerary. The circuit party scene is winding down and there's been an upswing in active holidays like hiking or biking. And cruises have reached a new plateau—so many people want to do gay and lesbian cruises now.

Outlooks: What are some of the more "colourful" areas your vacations delve into?

Kozdrowski: You can never be surprised about why people want to visit a particular destination. We've had people say, "I want a holiday that revolves around rubber", and while I don't have much knowledge about that, we try to accommodate them. As we become better known, we're drawing more of those kinds of inquiries. People want unique vacations and we're probably best suited to making that happen.

Rainbow High Vacations' staff (from front to back): John Wilkie, Pat Barry, Deb Farrell, Liz Devine, Rick Hurlbut, Greg Kozdrowski

We get a lot of people interested in leather, and there's a big upswing in bear-related travel (they've recently posted the Puerto Vallarta "Beef Dip" posters outside their office). And while we've had interest in sexual tourism, we have reservations about doing that kind of work, so we'll re-direct them and hope they don't come back.

We haven't been particularly strong on the women's side, but over the next six to eight months we want to bring on more programs specifically for them.

Outlooks: Do any women work in the office?

Kozdrowski: Yes. Two.

Outlooks: How involved are you with the community?

Kozdrowski: We take a lot of pride in the amount of sponsorship and contributions we make. (Laughs) In fact, a couple of years ago we really overspent and had to retrench. We get an endless parade of sports teams looking for giveaways or sponsorship, but obviously, we can't say yes to everybody. We feel it's a role and responsibility we have in the community.

We've also become the face of gay travel…whenever the subject is in the news they call us. Reporters are always surprised to hear there are "all-gay" cruises…they think it's like ten or twenty people. The mainstream media has no concept of the scale of gay travel.

Outlooks: What's your typical customer like?

Kozdrowski: Mainly thirty-five and older. I think that has to do with many of our products being more expensive than the average holiday. People fresh out of college or university find it hard to take that kind of vacation. But we're sensitive to that and are trying to develop products that are more affordable—we want to grow their business. Chances are they'll come back later when they can afford to spend more.

Outlooks: Do you deal primarily with Toronto clients?

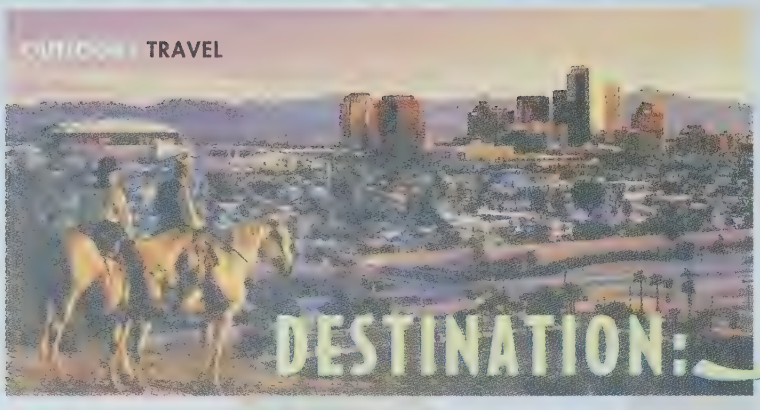
Kozdrowski: Yes, but we have a large clientele across Canada and the USA, and are working hard to have more presence in communities across Canada.

Outlooks: Does that mean opening more offices?

Kozdrowski: We had an office in Vancouver, and will probably re-open one in the next year or so. But so much is done online now, so there's less need for local "bricks and mortar" locations. We have a decent website and are launching a new version in the next couple of months. That's where we want to focus, to make it easier for anybody across the country to access these kinds of holidays.

Rainbow High Vacations is located at 200-506 Church Street in Toronto. You can also call them at 1-800-387-1240 or visit them online at **rainbowhighvacations.com**.

Lino DiNallo is a freelance writer, advertising copywriter, overlooked supermodel and sometimes memoirist living in Toronto.



DESTINATION: Arizona

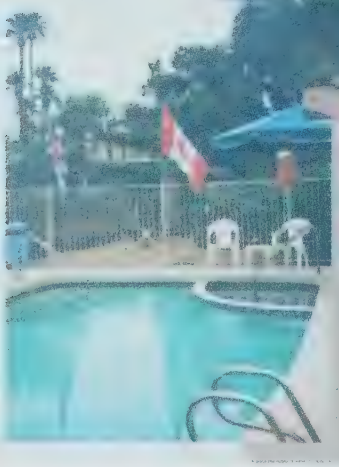
by Roy Heale

Warm deserts, cactus forests, snow-covered mountains, blue sky and beautiful sunsets— Arizona has it all—plus the claim to over 300 days of sunshine each year. Renowned for natural attractions including the Grand Canyon, the Sedona Red Rocks and historic architecture, the diversity of this state with its rich history has the makings of a gay playground for the GLBT traveler. Boasting numerous gay and lesbian bars, accommodations and a special GLBT Arizona visitor's guidebook, this is a truly gay-friendly oasis.

Known locally as The Valley Of The Sun, Phoenix is the perfect place to call home base as you travel around this scenic state. More than 80,000 gays and lesbians call Phoenix their home which ensures a good number of bars, restaurants and amenities to be found in Phoenix's Central Corridor. The perfect place to stay is the Arizona Royal Villa located in the heart of the gay neighborhood. With a beautiful swimming pool (an essential in this hot, dry climate) surrounded by moderately priced rooms, most with kitchenettes, the Villa is the place to be.

Enjoying all that Arizona has to offer means a car rental is a requisite, not a luxury. The cities of Phoenix and Tucson each occupy many square miles and being mobile is essential to take it all in. Also, the sights of Arizona are located throughout the state, so having your own vehicle is easier than organized tours. A week's car rental with unlimited mileage can be found for under US$200 from most major car rental agencies at the airport.

Arizona is home to twenty-one varied Native American Communities and they recognize the gay community as Two-Spirited people. In their native history Two-Spirited people were revered and considered to have great gifts of vision and foresight. This resulted in a very gay positive attitude which has endured throughout the history and growth of Arizona.



The Royal Villa, Phoenix

Phoenix, in central Arizona, offers a vibrant gay nightlife, fabulous shopping at all the designer stores, museums, art galleries and historic landmarks. A short drive to Scottsdale for a visit to Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin West rewards you with a step back into Art Deco history. Taliesin west was the famous architect's winter home and school, nestled high on a mountainside surrounded by a cactus forest. This is definitely inspiration for home décor and an insight into this legend's lifestyle and tastes.

Heading south from Phoenix through a vast cactus forest and only about two hours' drive is Tuscon. Known to locals as the Old Pueblo, Tucson is the oldest continuously inhabited city in the United States, claiming its roots as an historic frontier town and thousands of years of history. Today this metropolis blends old southwestern history and new modern architecture in a diverse scenic setting of mountains and desert. Downtown Tuscon includes a thriving GLBT community around 4th Avenue and boasts a half dozen gay bars and several gay-friendly restaurants and shops. On the edge of the city, nestled into the hillside, is Tortuga Roja a small gay Bed and Breakfast in a spectacular setting. With a kidney-shaped swimming pool and beautiful grounds, this is a perfect tranquil escape from the hustle and bustle of Tuscon.

Fort Trail Dust, Tuscon

Throughout Old Pueblo, a Spanish-Mexican influence exists with Haciendas, missions, churches and adobe style villas. Fort Trail Dust a popular visitor attraction, is a wonderful collection of pioneer buildings including the Dakota, a gay-owned restaurant that is a must for lunch or dinner. Another Old West attraction is the Old Tuscon Studios which were originally built for the 1939 western movie epic *Arizona*. Here you can enjoy western gunfights and stunt shows right out of your favorite western movies in the setting of an 1880s frontier town.

continued next page

Taliesin West, Scottsdale

continued from previous

Surrounding Tuscon are some of the finest Arizona vineyards—truly a pleasant surprise in this desert landscape. Many of them offer tours and sampling which can make for a perfect activity on a hot, sunny afternoon. If you've never sipped an Arizona wine, be prepared to awaken your tastebuds for a treat.

No visit to Arizona would be complete without an excursion to the Grand Canyon. Heading north from Phoenix, it is a pleasant drive of just under four hours through desert, cactus and redwood forests. Climbing in altitude as you approach the canyon be prepared for slightly cooler temperatures. Although it is possible to make this a day trip with plenty to see from the roads it is really worthy of a two or three day stay at one of the canyon resorts. This allows time to hike along the trails or take some of the tour bus journeys to see the canyon from close-up and feel the enormity of this natural wonder. The awesome colours and gigantic scale of the rock faces are a remarkable sight. A local expression sums it by saying, "With a sky so big you can see both ends of the Rainbow." No wonder the classic movie *Thelma and Louise* was shot in Arizona.

Depending upon the length of your vacation, returning from the Grand Canyon the slightly longer route will allow you to see the renowned Red Rocks of Sedona. With names like Cathedral, Snoopy, Coffee Pot and Bell these bright red rock formations are spectacular. If you think their names are intriguing just wait until you see the real rock statues! Off road jeep trips are the best way to view these monoliths up close. Alternatively, guided tours of Red Rock State Park make sure you don't miss a single important rock. The Verde Canyon historic train ride affords spectacular panoramic views of the entire vicinity.

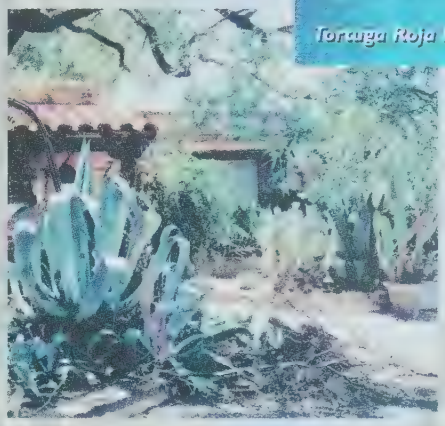
Surprisingly, on the "West Coast" of Arizona, Lake Havasu is an aquatic paradise in the desert. Here you can find a total of 400 miles of blue water surrounded by beautiful, arid scenery and a multitude of beaches. Fishing, water skiing, kayaking or sun tanning on the beach are just some of the leisure activities to enjoy. Shopping is fun in the quaint English Village townsite located beneath the famed London Bridge—which once spanned the River Thames before its relocation to Arizona. This region referred to as the West Coast is really the Colorado River that defines the Arizona-California state border and provides an otherwise barren land with a water recreation area.

At the southern end of the river is the small town of Yuma, which has recently attracted much GLBT tourism attention. Nobody could explain why the sudden enquiries from gay travelers but perhaps the U.S. Marine Corps Air station located there is at the bottom of this tourist quest. Don't Ask - Don't Tell!

With scenic diversity and gay friendly citizens, the State of Arizona is a perfect escape from the upcoming chills of a Canadian winter. Rapidly becoming popular destinations for Canadian GLBT travelers, the cities of Phoenix and Tuscon are served daily from major airports in Canada.

Start planning now for a desert vacation to warm your heart this winter.

Tortuga Roja B&B, Tuscon



Some helpful sources for your travel planning

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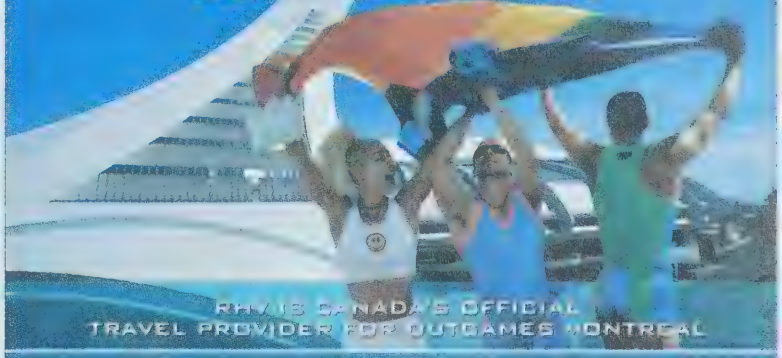

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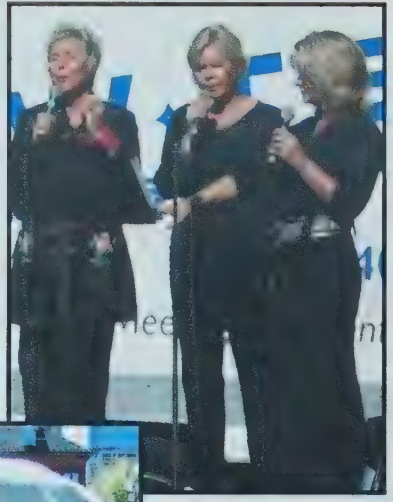

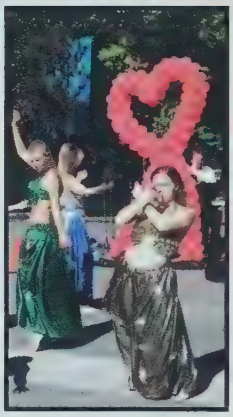

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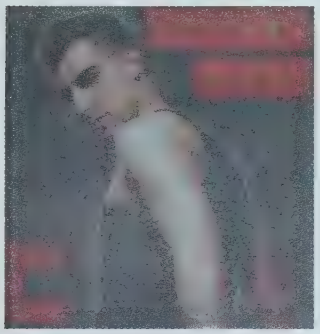
Cute, Gay and Talented

By Dale Smith



Be still my heart! Matthew Duffy has it all going for him—his smouldering looks, his burgeoning music career with a dance single that's charting on Billboard—did I mention that he's a pop star who's openly gay—and out to change the world?

Duffy's debut CD *Here I Come*, is a piece of electro-pop perfection that hearkens one back to the early eighties sounds with a modern edge. One certainly wouldn't have to look beyond the video for his first single, *Electric Shock*, to see the ode to the decade of big hair and bad taste, with cheesy special effects, Transformers and Xanadu thrown into the mix.

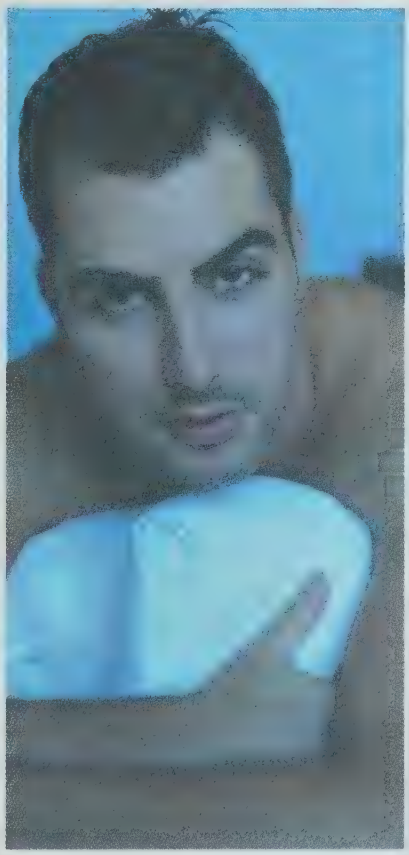
"I've always listened to Top 40 music, but I also listened to a lot of New Wave music growing up," Duffy says. "I knew that the sound that I wanted and that I was always drawn to was kind of electronic-oriented songs with pop hooks, like Depeche Mode, Erasure, Nine Inch Nails and Pet Shop Boys." Duffy takes this sound, and builds on it with more traditional pop structures in his songs.

Given its pop structure, *Here I Come* is filled with more mid-tempo than up-tempo songs, not that there aren't a couple of great dance floor tracks like Little Bird or Take To The Sky. But the small number of dance music tracks is a bit surprising considering Duffy's background.

"I moved to New York to go to NYU as a dancer at Tisch School of the Arts," Duffy says of his past. "Basically when I got done with school, I was at a semi-crossroads and didn't want to continue dancing and go down that road where I wasn't as passionate about it as I should be."

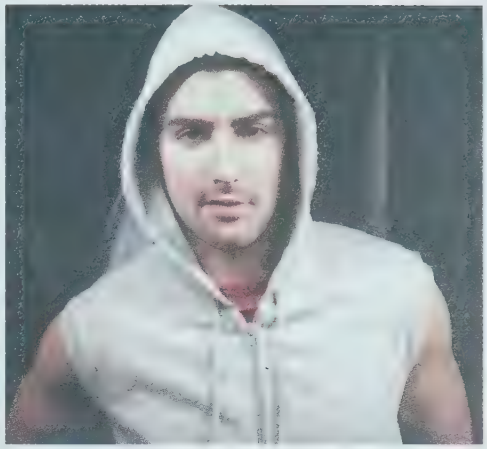
Being out in the New York scene soon put Duffy in touch with a number of producers, one of them being Michael Prendergast. Duffy started working for Prendergast as a singer, but when he got into the studio, everything came together for him. "I had been writing poetry and songs a lot, and I was looking for this kind of outlet. It was a perfect combination of everything—of art, of my dancing, of music together."

Given his electro-sound, one has to wonder if it's a product of the moment, as the resurgence of electro is hot in Europe right now, most especially in the UK. After all, how many artists put out a rock album to gain credibility once the pop market enters one of its waning phases? Duffy refutes this, and cites his love of the sounds of his youth as his driving inspiration in the face of what is becoming the rapid hip-hopification of the American market.



"I think my music will always be groove-oriented sounds, as that's the sound that I feel most comfortable in," he says. "I've already used some organic instruments like in the title track Here I Come, we use electric guitars, in Beautiful Release, in Rising... There will always be an electro-oriented sound. I won't be coming out with Matthew Duffy - The Jazz Album or anything."

Not that Duffy isn't familiar with an unplugged sound. "When I perform live sometimes, I perform just with musicians, and don't use any MIDI tracks or any electro, any of the sequencing—we just do it all live with guitars or piano, or cellos, or violins—it depends." The venue, of course, determines how he ends up performing the pieces. In clubs, doing the performance to track can be preferable. "I do dance, so I can present everything in a live show with dancers, choreography and staging, but if I'm doing a more traditional music venue, I will strip it down and redo all the parts with live musicians."



Duffy's status as openly gay in the pop scene is something of a rarity in America. Given the nature of the market, where so many artists are closeted for fear of what may happen to them if their sexuality makes them un-sellable to the target demographics, Duffy takes this mentality in stride.

"I'm sure there have been certain limitations from it in terms of mainstream corporate America, or other record opportunities that would have come together if I hadn't been so direct and open, but I feel like I need to be someone to incite change." Duffy pauses for a moment. "I didn't think about this in the beginning, but now that I've been blessed enough to be successful in certain circles, it's like I have to be the one to make a difference. If I don't make a difference, if I don't be open and free and like what I'm saying and who I am, then nothing will ever change."

The self-imposed mantle of role model is something that Duffy takes seriously, given that he didn't feel like he had any successful, openly gay role models growing up. The decision to make that difference is one he calls instinctual.

The upcoming year is a busy one for Duffy, as he works on writing his second album, but he also looks to tackle Europe. After playing two shows in Paris in April, Duffy is looking forward to strengthening his presence in a place where dance artists are respected. And what about Canada?

"Let's do it—I've never been, actually. I would love to go! It's on my list, I promise."

To learn more about Matthew Duffy, and to order his CD online, visit his website at: **matthewduffy.com**.

Dale Smith is a freelance writer who lives in Ottawa. His work has previously appeared in XY Magazine, and Outlooks' RSVP competition.

Rainbow over Rideau Hall?

By Peter Carlyle-Gordge

Few people outside of Quebec and the CBC had ever heard of Michaelle Jean and her husband Jean-Daniel Lafond until the stunning announcement by the prime minister that they were to be the new occupants of Rideau Hall from September 27 onwards.

Madame Jean is, at 48, one of the youngest ever Governors-General. She is also an immigrant, coming from Haiti. She and her family fled the crazy regime of Francois 'Papa Doc' Duvalier in 1968 and settled in Quebec.

In Quebec, she prospered as a CBC journalist and is known to a few English Canadians as host of *The Passionate Eye*. The last Governor General, Adrienne Clarkson, was also a CBC TV journalist and host.

The Governor General's personal flag

Madame Clarkson highlighted her role as technical Commander-In-Chief of the armed forces and greatly raised their profile. On the negative side, she doubled her budget from $10 million to almost $20 million a year between 1999 and 2005 and was criticized for lavish foreign tours with a few dozen well-chosen friends.

In the old days a dusty old Earl or Lord happily filled the post of Governor General, which some say is stuffy and outdated. I actually prefer having a Governor General as a potential check and balance on some crazy future prime minister and have never supported the idea of a Canadian president, who would likely be some old, corrupt, burned out and possibly mad ex-politician, likely to sell off or steal the Rideau Hall silver.

Even so, I was surprised by the choice of Jean, who is little known and doesn't seem to me to have contributed as much to Canada as some I could name. Recently I told Joyce Milgaard she would be a more fitting choice for her services to Justice, but she laughed me to scorn at the very idea.

Parliament Hill thinking is that the ever devious Liberal Party has chosen Jean to win back alienated Quebecers, who are still mightily pissed off over the Adscam case. The fact that Jean began as a poor immigrant and a black one at that is also believed to be part of the Liberal plot to win votes. The idea is that literally anyone can rise to the top post in Canada, especially if their people have been oppressed and marginalized in the past.

When asked if his choice of this twenty-seventh Governor General was intended to shore up Liberal support in Quebec, Paul Martin said the appointment was "not done in a partisan way". (Please withhold your laughter here). It was, he said, designed to 'inspire people'. (Meaning: inspire them to vote Liberal).

Worse was soon to come when it leaked out that Madame Jean and her French-born husband were known to have associated with Quebec separatists in the past—up to and including some of those involved with terrorism in the 1970's. Even the Royal Canadian Legion and the Monarchist League took note and asked Rideau Hall for a clarification.

They got one, but it didn't actually deny past association with separatists and didn't deny once having sympathy for the cause. The couple simply stressed that they had never belonged to a political party or a separation movement and were "committed to Canada and its institutions". All sounds a bit fishy.

We will just have to trust they did see the light. Having a separatist Governor General in charge of the armed forces could be awkward if push comes to shove. And if it happened, Her Majesty would have to offer the vice-regal couple new quarters in the Tower of London rather than at stately Rideau Hall.

This hilarious saga did set me thinking though. If the Rideau Hall appointment is now to showcase Canadians who have risen above adversity in our vast multiculti mosaic, is it not time for gays or lesbians to get the ultimate appointment as Queen's representative in Canada?

We have had to overcome much adversity and discrimination just like Mme. Jean. We can now marry and have entered mainstream society, so why not acknowledge this with the next vice-regal appointment? We have many successful individuals and couples in the worlds of business, Arts and media. (Hint: I once worked as a CBC producer and have broadcast on the local, national and international CBC networks. A CBC pattern seems to be developing after Clarkson and Jean. Wink, wink).

Imagine Rideau Hall with a new colour scheme—all the colours of the rainbow in the ballroom. The post could be held by a married couple or an individual gay man who could choose a well-upholstered queenly consort to help him. There is no shortage of drag queens in Winnipeg who would be more than happy to fill the role. A call to the Snowy Owl Monarchist League would bring many applicants.

Imagine all the dressing up and all those lovely young men in uniforms guarding the gay vice-regals day and night. The Gay Hussars would triumph. And rolling out a pink carpet to the reviewing stand would be a photographer's dream.

Forget about the blood blue and seriously consider the blood pink. Instead of representing a single Queen, this new Excellency could rightfully represent hundreds of queens across the country. Fabulous cocktail parties could be organized, with a chance to wear medals, tiaras and all kinds of fabulous bling bling.

The Order of the Garter could take on a new meaning, with Rideau Hall mirroring the splendours of Versailles or Windsor, since everyone who is anyone in the gay realm would have to come and pay homage.

Doubtless, there are many gifted Canadian gay candidates, but what about former Toronto filmmaker and current Elton John boyfriend David Furnish? He is Canadian and they already hold a posh White Tie And Tiara Party at their lavish home in Windsor, England, every summer. Quite close, too, for a chat with Elizabeth II just to finalize details.

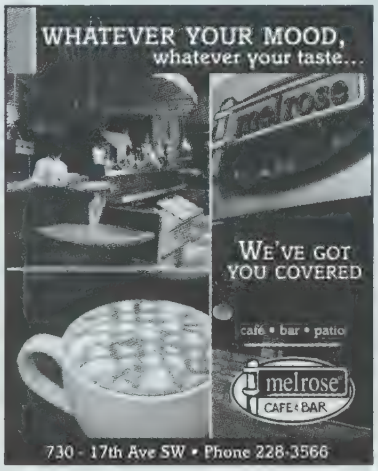
Furnish and his fabulous queenly consort Elton would make ideal occupants of Rideau Hall and they needn't raid public funds to have splashy parties, since they are already dripping with cash and jewels. Even better, they plan to marry on December 21, just two weeks after Britain finally makes same sex civil partnerships legal. So it would all be quite respectable.

Their social agenda might include a Black And Royal Blue Ball and when their vice-regal gig is over, we could always balance the scales with a lesbian Governor General. K.D. Lang comes to mind. She too isn't short of a Pound or two and could do the country proud without robbing the public treasury.

So, start writing letters to Paul Martin today. Being Master or Chatelaine of Rideau Hall is just another challenge on our road to total equality.

And May God Save The Queen. *Someone* has to. ▼

Peter Carlyle-Gordge is a former Manitoba correspondent for Maclean's *and* The Financial Post. *He has written for most major magazines and newspapers in Canada as well as broadcasting on the national and international networks of CBC Radio. As honorary press secretary to the Lt.Governor of Manitoba in the 1980's, Peter was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for services to Canada in 2003.*



It has been over eight-and-a-half years since *Outlooks* first hit the streets. In that time both the publication and its readership have grown and evolved a great deal, but there is always room for expansion and further improvement. To this end, we ask that you take a moment to fill out our Ninth Annual Readers Survey here or online at **outlooks.ca** so that we may better fulfill **your** needs.

This information is also invaluable when it comes to making the diversity of our community known on both a social and economic level.

Send completed surveys to:
Outlooks Survey
Box 439, Suite 100
1029 17th Avenue SW
Calgary AB T2T 0B2

YOU COULD WIN...
Surveys which contain a name and address will be entered in the prize draw for a Kenneth Cole watch from Crowley's Jewellers & Goldsmiths (value: $250)
www.crowleysjewellers.com

Crowley's
Jewellers & Goldsmiths

OUTLOOKS READERS SURVEY

ALSO ONLINE AT WWW.OUTLOOKS.CA

ARE YOU:
❑ Male ❑ Female ❑ Trans-gendered

❑ Openly Gay ❑ Semi-Closeted ❑ Closeted
❑ Bi-Sexual ❑ Straight

YOUR AGE GROUP IS:
❑ 15-25 ❑ 26-35 ❑ 36-45 ❑ 46-55 ❑ 55+

OCCUPATION:
❑ Professional ❑ Service/Retail
❑ Unemployed ❑ Arts & Culture
❑ Self-employed ❑ Student
❑ Retired ❑ Other: _____

WHAT IS YOUR EDUCATION?:
❑ Junior High School ❑ High School
❑ College ❑ Technical Institute
❑ University ❑ Graduate Studies
❑ Ph.D.

INCOME:
❑ under $20,000 ❑ $21,000 - $30,000
❑ $31,000 - $39,000 ❑ $40,000 - $59,000
❑ $60,000 +

RESIDENCE:
❑ Own ❑ Rent
❑ Share ❑ Sublet
❑ Live with Parents

LOCATION OF PRIMARY RESIDENCE:
❑ Downtown / Urban ❑ Suburban ❑ Rural

TYPE OF RESIDENCE:
❑ Condominium ❑ House
❑ Townhouse ❑ Apartment
❑ Other

WHICH AMENITIES DO YOU FEEL ARE IMPORTANT TO HAVE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO YOU?
❑ Schools ❑ Grocery Store
❑ Workplace ❑ Coffee Shops
❑ Gym / Recreation ❑ Gay Village
❑ Bars / Nightclubs

WHEN BUYING A DWELLING, DO YOU LOOK FOR:
❑ A new property ❑ A pre-owned property
❑ A fixer-upper

APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY PEOPLE READ YOUR COPY OF OUTLOOKS?
❑ 1 ❑ 2 ❑ 3 ❑ 4 ❑ 5 ❑ 6+

WHICH OTHER LOCAL PUBLICATIONS DO YOU READ ON A REGULAR BASIS?
❑ FFWD ❑ Xtra! ❑ Xtra! West
❑ WestEnder ❑ Where ❑ Capital Xtra!
❑ Now ❑ Vue ❑ SEE
❑ fab ❑ Exclaim ❑ Swerve
❑ Wayves ❑ Perceptions ❑ GayCalgary.com
❑ Georgia Straight ❑ Other: _____

OTHER NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS YOU READ ON A REGULAR BASIS:
❑ Advocate ❑ Gay Times ❑ Gaiety
❑ West ❑ Out ❑ Details
❑ Vanity Fair ❑ Wallpaper ❑ Vogue
❑ Genre ❑ GQ ❑ Hero
❑ XY ❑ Attitude ❑ Esquire
❑ Harper's ❑ US ❑ Rolling Stone
❑ Other: _____

DO REPRINTS OF APPROPRIATE MAINSTREAM NEWS/CURRENT EVENTS STORIES INTEREST YOU?
❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Sometimes

DO YOU, AS A RULE, TEND TO SUPPORT OUTLOOKS' ADVERTISERS?
❑ Always ❑ Sometimes ❑ Never

HOW OFTEN DO YOU DINE OUT PER WEEK?
❑ Once ❑ Twice ❑ Three times
❑ Four + ❑ Rarely ❑ Never

HOW OFTEN DO YOU PURCHASE BIG-TICKET ($500+) ITEMS IN A YEAR?
❑ Once ❑ Twice ❑ Three times
❑ Four + ❑ Rarely ❑ Never

YOU ARE ATTENDING A SOCIAL FUNCTION AND SHOPPING FOR A NEW SHIRT; WHICH DO YOU FEEL IS AN APPROPRIATE PRICE?
❑ $25 ❑ $50 ❑ $75
❑ $100 ❑ $150 ❑ $200 +

DO YOU WORK OUT? IF SO, HOW OFTEN PER WEEK?
❑ Once ❑ Twice ❑ Three times
❑ Four + ❑ Rarely ❑ Never

DO YOU USE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS TO AID IN TRAINING?
❑ Vitamins ❑ Protein Products
❑ Energy Boost ❑ Herbal Medicines

CONTINUED OVER

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

HAVE YOU HAD, OR WOULD YOU EVER CONSIDER, ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES?
- ❑ Liposuction
- ❑ Laser Resurfacing
- ❑ Chemical Peel
- ❑ Laser Eye Surgery
- ❑ Face Lift
- ❑ Teeth Whitening

WHAT TYPE OF PET(S) DO YOU OWN?
- ❑ Cats
- ❑ Dogs
- ❑ Birds
- ❑ Horses
- ❑ None
- ❑ Other: _____

HOW OFTEN DO YOU GO OUT TO NIGHTCLUBS OR BARS PER MONTH?
- ❑ Once
- ❑ Twice
- ❑ Three times
- ❑ Four +
- ❑ Rarely
- ❑ Never

DO YOU SOCIALIZE IN CHATROOMS?
- ❑ Often
- ❑ Sometimes
- ❑ Rarely
- ❑ Never

IF YOU ARE AN INTERNET USER, IS YOUR CONNECTION:
- ❑ Dial-Up
- ❑ Cable
- ❑ DSL

IN TERMS OF TELEVISION CHANNELS, IS YOUR HOME ON:
- ❑ Tier 1 Cable
- ❑ Tier 2 or higher Cable
- ❑ Digital Cable
- ❑ Satellite
- ❑ Out TV

HOW OFTEN DO YOU TRAVEL ON BUSINESS IN CANADA PER YEAR?
- ❑ Once
- ❑ Twice
- ❑ Three times
- ❑ Four +
- ❑ Rarely
- ❑ Never

HOW OFTEN DO YOU TRAVEL FOR PLEASURE IN CANADA PER YEAR?
- ❑ Once
- ❑ Twice
- ❑ Three times
- ❑ Four +
- ❑ Rarely
- ❑ Never

HOW OFTEN DO YOU TRAVEL INTERNATIONALLY PER YEAR?
- ❑ Once
- ❑ Twice
- ❑ Three times
- ❑ Four +
- ❑ Rarely
- ❑ Never

WHAT TYPE OF TRAVEL ACCOMMODATIONS DO YOU PREFER?
- ❑ Camping
- ❑ Condo
- ❑ Cabin
- ❑ Timeshare
- ❑ RV
- ❑ Hotel
- ❑ B&B

DO YOU LEASE OR OWN YOUR VEHICLE?
- ❑ Own
- ❑ Lease
- ❑ No Vehicle

WHEN YOU PURCHASE AN AUTOMOBILE, WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT CRITERIA FOR YOUR SELECTION PROCESS?
- ❑ Manufacturer
- ❑ Model/Style
- ❑ Colour
- ❑ Performance
- ❑ Mileage
- ❑ Interior Finish
- ❑ Warranty
- ❑ Friends Advice or Referrals
- ❑ Auto Column Articles
- ❑ Gay-friendly dealership

IN OUTLOOKS, I READ:

	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	NEVER
Dear Freddy	❑	❑	❑
Astrology	❑	❑	❑
Porn Reviews	❑	❑	❑
Cinematic Reviews	❑	❑	❑
Book Reviews	❑	❑	❑
Travel Features	❑	❑	❑
Gay Men in Business	❑	❑	❑
Issue-Related Editorial	❑	❑	❑
Humour	❑	❑	❑
Don't You Wish	❑	❑	❑
Out & About Features	❑	❑	❑
Arts	❑	❑	❑
Poetry	❑	❑	❑
In The News	❑	❑	❑
Living / Decor	❑	❑	❑
Fashion	❑	❑	❑
Chelsea Boys	❑	❑	❑
Outpost: Calgary	❑	❑	❑
Outpost: Toronto	❑	❑	❑
Outpost: Winnipeg	❑	❑	❑
Outpost: Vancouver	❑	❑	❑
Outpost: Edmonton	❑	❑	❑
Outpost: Maritimes	❑	❑	❑
Outpost: Montreal	❑	❑	❑
Outpost: Ottawa	❑	❑	❑
CD Reviews	❑	❑	❑
TV Reviews	❑	❑	❑
Publisher's Column	❑	❑	❑
Classified Pages	❑	❑	❑

LIST THE PRIORITY OF YOUR CONSUMER SPENDING HABITS ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS, USING A 1 - 10 SCALE (10 being highest):
- _____ Clothing
- _____ Stereo Equipment
- _____ Books
- _____ Sports Equipment
- _____ Films
- _____ Auto Accessories
- _____ Dining Out
- _____ Home Improvement
- _____ Travel
- _____ Pornography
- _____ Art
- _____ Flowers / Gardening
- _____ Furnishings
- _____ Luxury Goods
- _____ Music
- _____ Health Food/Supplements
- _____ Computer Equip
- _____ Continuing Education
- _____ Medication
- _____ Electronics (TV, DVD)

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN FUTURE ISSUES OF OUTLOOKS? (check all that apply)
- ❑ Sports
- ❑ Art Reviews/Previews
- ❑ Fiction
- ❑ Theatre Reviews/Previews
- ❑ Cuisine
- ❑ Current Cinema Reviews
- ❑ Financial News
- ❑ Consumer Reports
- ❑ Other: _____

WHEN MAKING A PURCHASE FOR GOODS OR SERVICES, DO YOU TELL THE SUPPLIER THAT YOU SAW THEIR ADVERTISEMENT IN OUTLOOKS?
- ❑ Sometimes
- ❑ Always
- ❑ Never

DO YOU FEEL MORE AT HOME IF AN ESTABLISHMENT PROMINENTLY DISPLAYS A RAINBOW FLAG OR STICKER?
- ❑ Yes
- ❑ No
- ❑ Don't Care

WHICH FINANCIAL INSTITUTION DO YOU USE TO CONDUCT MOST OF YOUR DAY-TO-DAY BANKING?
- ❑ CIBC
- ❑ RBC Royal Bank
- ❑ Bank of Montreal
- ❑ TD Canada Trust
- ❑ ScotiaBank
- ❑ HSBC
- ❑ Credit Union
- ❑ Mortgage Specialist
- ❑ Other Chartered Bank
- ❑ Other: _____

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS DO YOU CURRENTLY USE? (check all that apply)
- ❑ Stock Broker
- ❑ Financial Planner
- ❑ Accountant
- ❑ Buy/Trade Online (self)
- ❑ Other: _____

IN TERMS OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY, ARE YOU:
- ❑ Close
- ❑ Friendly
- ❑ In Contact
- ❑ Estranged

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOUR READING PLEASURE IN OUTLOOKS?
- ❑ Stories
- ❑ Advertisements
- ❑ Classifieds
- ❑ Cartoons
- ❑ Astrology

DO YOU APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT OUTLOOKS IS NATIONAL IN SCOPE?
- ❑ Yes
- ❑ No
- ❑ Indifferent

PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING SPACE FOR COMMENTS, CRITICISMS OR SUGGESTIONS:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Optional Information

(complete if you want to be entered into the prize draw)

Name: _____

Address: _____

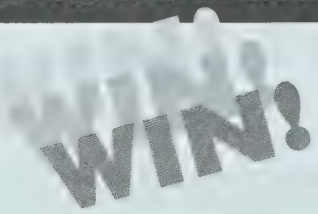
City: _____ Prov.: _____

Postal Code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Mail your completed surveys to:
OUTLOOKS SURVEY
Box 439, Suite 100
1039 - 17th Avenue SW
CALGARY AB T2T 0B2

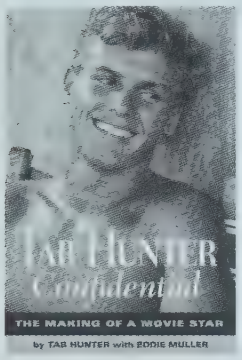
ENTER TO WIN A KENNETH COLE WATCH
Just add your name and contact information to the right!



Crowley's
Jewellers & Goldsmiths

By Outlooks Staff

TAB HUNTER CONFIDENTIAL : *The Making of a Movie Star*



The judgment of a good autobiography is always based upon the life of the author. Tab hunter Confidential is a fast paced story rich in Hollywood history. One of the biggest screen idols of the 50s and 60s, as well as a recording artist with the number one hit *Young Love*, Art Gelien made the transition to Tab Hunter very quickly before he was twenty-five years old.

As an introverted and extremely attractive young nineteen year old, Art was discovered by a Hollywood agent in 1951 and transformed into Tab Hunter by the Warner Studio publicity machinery. He quickly became a number one box office attraction, a pin-up boy for millions of star struck teenage girls (and boys who were friends of Dorothy) and he sang his way to the top of the music charts.

His life is a fascinating story of ups and downs, twists and turns but his career is not the traditional movie star story. As a part of the Hollywood studio system of the Fifties, being gay was not easy. However, with "girlfriends" including Debbie Reynolds and Natalie Wood, men friends like Anthony Perkins, James Dean and Rudolf Nureyev, Tab managed to survive the scrutiny of the gossip columnists and the early days of tabloid journalism.

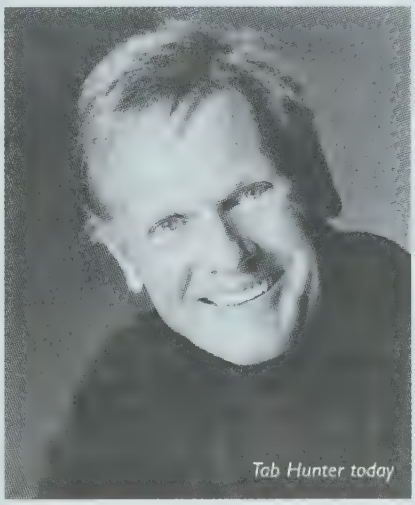
Starting with his difficult childhood and family relationships, this biography is frank and honest about personal details making for a very down to earth account. In Tab's own words, "This is no fairy tale. It does, however, start like one." It plays out through a fifty-plus year career with trials and tribulations but ends in classic movie style with a real-life happy ending. However, as with all good rags to riches stories, this one has its share of wicked witches and fairy godfathers.

Covering a long career from major big screen box office hits, through the transition from the major studio system, to the birth of independent productions via European 'B' movies, several T.V. series and roles, followed by the dinner theatre circuit, finally Tab—along with his partner Allan—became an independent producer. Along the way thanks to producer/director John Waters, Tab made a career comeback when he co-starred with Divine in *Polyester*. The movie became a box office success and later evolved into a cult classic. Tab starred in this movie against everybody's advice but it changed the future direction of his life. In his own words, "It was 'divine' intervention!"

A chance meeting with Allan Glaser, who at the time was an up and coming young executive responsible for Creative Development at 20th Century Fox, led to a professional and personal partnership that has lasted for over twenty years. Their successful production company has produced several current movie hits.

During his impressive career, Tab co-starred with the likes of Sophia Loren, John Wayne, Paul Newman, Robert Mitchum and more. His story is full of fascinating anecdotes about his famous fellow actors and many newcomers who went on to become famous in more recent television series like *Three's Company* or Archie Bunker's *All in the Family*. Tab has guest starred in many recent T.V. series and as a result, his book is full of Hollywood name-dropping. However, with co-author Eddie Muller, they manage to make every part of Tab's life interesting. Like a good fiction or suspense story, this life story draws the reader in and leaves you wondering what could possibly happen next.

After quadruple heart by-pass surgery and a stroke, Tab decided it was time to put pen to paper and tell his story. Years ago, movie producer Howard Koch encouraged Tab to write a book but at the time Tab didn't have the guts to reveal everything. Now, decades later, he decided his story was better told from the horse's mouth than from some horse's ass. Travel the amazing journey of Art Gelien's life from a New York childhood to stardom and his present life of contentment. ▼


Tab Hunter today

Tab Hunter Confidential: The Making of a Movie Star will be released on October 14th 2005, and is published in Canada by Thomas Allen & Son Limited.

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Come out come out wherever you are. Don't be shy this October—the world is waiting for your next move. Very personal planets troll through Scorpio, which refuses all attempts at compromise. 'Bout time! Listen to your own voice and do what you have to do.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Proud Rams will feel their oats in October. They'll be feisty and on their game. Yet you realize that deep down, you really want someone else to feel your oats. Luckily, there are planets in Scorpio to give you that certain allure that is bound to capture any possible lover. Are you seeking more than just a brief encounter? You seem to have your heart in your hand. Yuk.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

National Coming Out month demands that not only do you need to be yourself; you need to be yourself with a certain someone. Queer Bulls will need to connect on a more meaningful level. If that means that you have to lift yourself off the couch and make a special effort, do it. Plug in and connect—you will be shocked to learn that there is more electricity than you first think.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

First, strive for harmony in the workplace and then use the Scorpio energy during National Coming Out month to carve a special place for yourself in the hierarchy. Once people trust you, they will reveal all sorts of interesting and useful information. Pink Twins will find that they can go far if they press the flesh around the office. Err handshakes that is!

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

There will be many opportunities for fun and frolic this October and you'll be pushed right into the center of the action. What mischief will you get into? Planets in Scorpio will lead you into more intense liaisons that have longer lasting impact. Light and airy just won't cut it. Dive into the bubbling stewpot and get cooked. Do I smell steamed hot Crab? Let's grab a claw and get cracking.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Family issues will need to be addressed but don't agree to anything that compromises who you are. Don't be surprised if October brings you a slew of home improvement projects that change your personal landscape. And if you have been deferring repairs, tackle them now. Proud Lions need a perfect den to entertain their packs of pals. Gee, how about a painting party?

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

You think that you are very clever and insightful. But why keep such good news to yourself? October will bring a rush of Scorpio energy that is impassioned and relevant. It will spur your imagination and sense of political outrage. Good! Gay Virgins must not be shy and retiring now. Speak loud, proud and queer and I guarantee that people will listen. Hey! I can't hear you!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

National Coming Out month will begin with a bang and gather intensity as the month progresses. That means that you should work on your own press and should not be shy about broadcasting your accomplishments to the immediate world. All of your good works will have a payoff as long as others know about them. Secrets should not be kept in the closet. Hint, hint.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

Clear your mind of the cobwebs and get yourself ensconced in new social circles. October will offer you plenty of opportunities to make or break your reputation. Important and influential folks will listen to your pearls of wisdom and why not? Proud Scorps act like they know a thing or two. Will you be hoisted on your own petards? Be sure that they are clean and fresh.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Gay Archers want change now! There are too many restrictions on your various comings and goings, too many meaningless conventions and far too many stupid people telling you what to do. October will give you the chance to break out of your straight jacket. Great! Howl at the moon, run Wilde and let it all hang out. Hurry before the weather gets too chilly. Brrr.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

The pride parade will wend it way to you this National Coming Out month. You cannot escape the excitement. Why ask "why" pink Cap? Just allow yourself to be caught up in the bonhomie with a few bon homies. Try to expand your social circle by joining new clubs or organizations. You will find that compadres come out of the woodwork. Ah, but will they work your wood?

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Though Aqueerians will find that travel brings luck and expansion, the best use of your time now is within the corporate arena. You'll have some great new ideas, have expert opinions that powerbrokers notice and reward, and you'll really seem to enjoy the intrigue. Make hay while the sun shines. By next month you will be content to loll at the bottom of the food chain... again.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

It is time to get out of your old skin and try something new—preferably in some distant and exotic locale. Adventure awaits! Guppies should try to travel at some time during National Coming Out month. You are in a lonely rut. Not only will you gain confidence and perspective, you may even find a wonderful pillow gift in your hotel. No names please!

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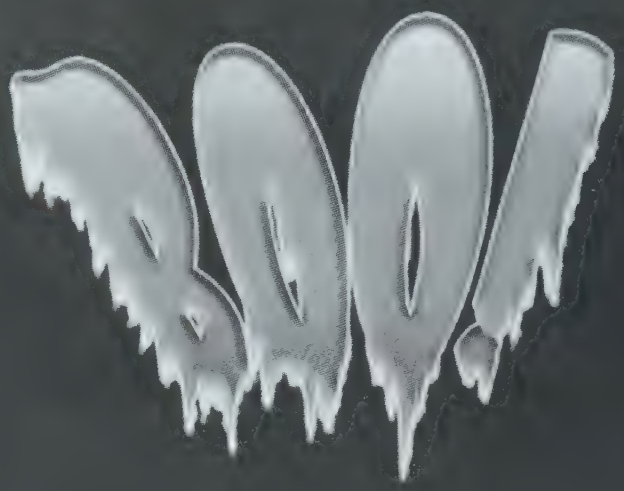

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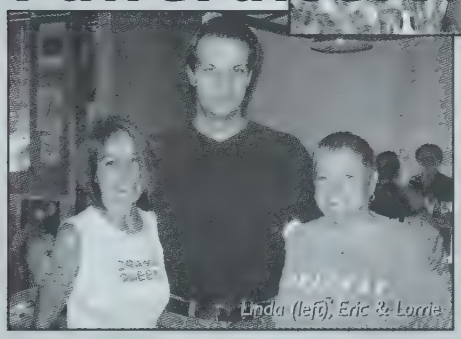
Planning an event in Calgary? Contact Cap at (403) 228-1157 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.
Photos By: Outlooks Staff

Fundraisers!

Jason (left), Arron & Scott


Linda (left), Eric & Lorrie

MoneyPennies' Brunch, *with proceeds going to the Cut-A-Thon, September 4th.*

Birthdays!

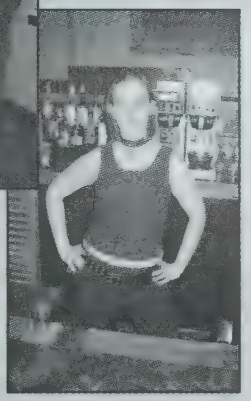
Mike, Bob, Bob's Mom, Twig, Garry

Argentina

2 TURN 30: *Bob celebrated by hosting a fundraiser for AIDS Calgary at the Calgary Tower (above and left); Geoff celebrated with friends (below).*

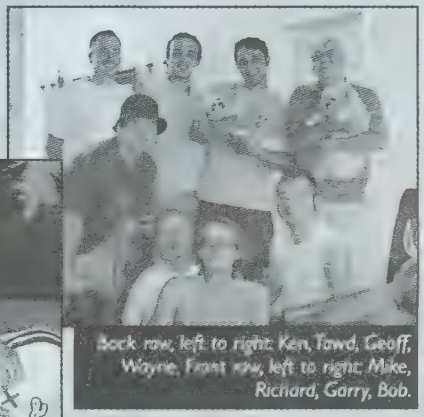
Party!

Kelly & Eric



Dungeon Night: *September 16th at Detour*

Richard (left), Mike, Wayne & Geoff

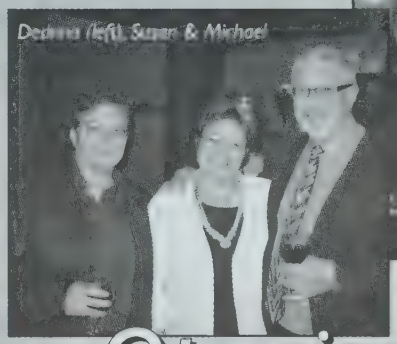

Back row, left to right: Ken, Todd, Geoff, Wayne. Front row, left to right: Mike, Richard, Garry, Bob.

Special Events!

Trevor (left) & Stephen

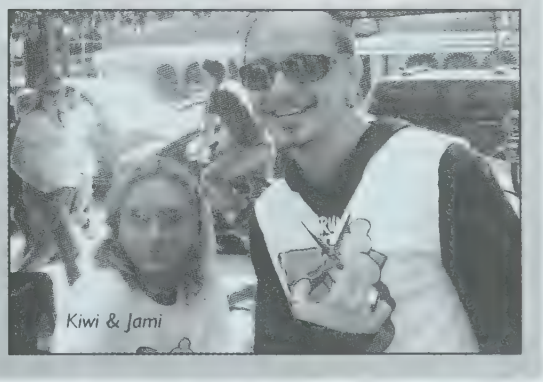
The Cut-A-Thon *on September 5th at Tomkins Park raised money for AIDS Calgary.*

Openings!


Dechren (left), Susan & Michael

Barb (left), Kelly & Kim

Russell's Cobalt Hair & Aesthetics *Grand Opening, September 17th.*


Kiwi & Jami

FOCUS

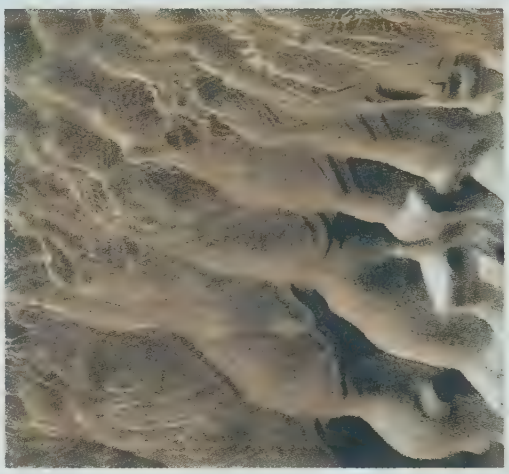
"As Claude Monet once said - 'The richness I achieve comes from nature, the source of my inspiration', and I hope I have echoed this sentiment in my photographic work. My portfolio includes the abstract and also studies humanity's interactions with nature. Since coming to Canada from the United Kingdom I have been further inspired by the wonderful Canadian landscape and people," says Andrew Randell.

Currently Andrew Randell's work may be viewed at Momentum Men's Grooming, 1237 Burrard Street, Vancouver.

Further examples of his work and also contact details can be found on his website at **rawnature.biz**

Gargoyle

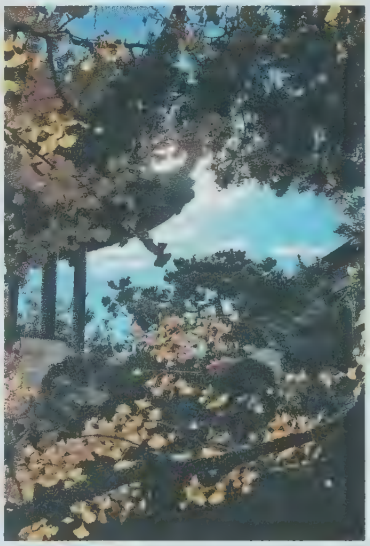
Snow Leopard



Ripple Effect

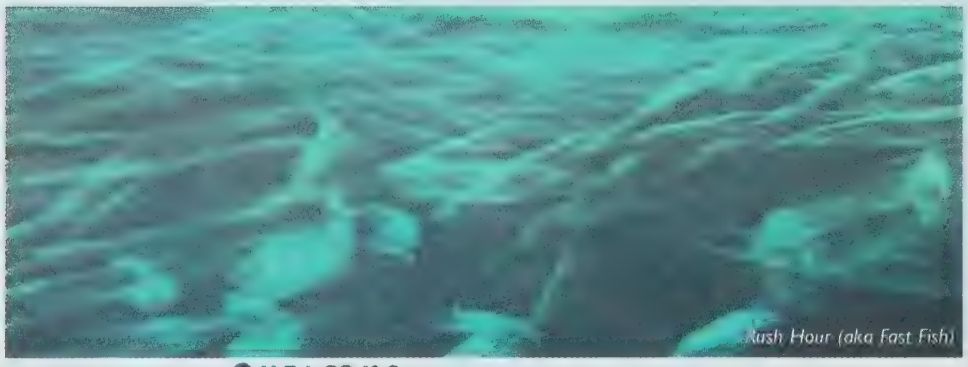
Red Canoe

Shadow Falls



Sunlit Gingko

Submerged Logs



Rush Hour (aka Fast Fish)

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OUT tv Fall Season Review

By Dale Smith

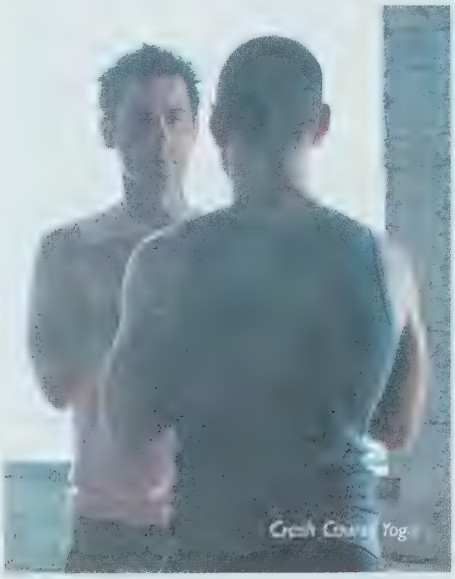
There's not a lot to like about the fall. It's getting cold out, it's windy and if you happen to own a house, you spend all of your weekends raking leaves. But at least there is one good thing about fall, and that's the release of the new fall season. OutTV is no different—releasing its first fall season under its new name, it has some programs that are sure to keep you on the couch—especially after a day of raking leaves!

Trevor Boris

One of the returning favourites of the fall lineup is *ForTheBoys.TV*. Gary Greene and Steve Elliot's webcast-turned-television show is back for a second season of interviews, dissecting their failed relationship and general televised hijinks.

OutTV's slate of original programming includes both new and returning series. *Fairy Tale* returns for more gay and lesbian dating, while host Nelson Tome does double-duty and stars in another original series called *Crash Course Yoga*, where unsuspecting people are treated to yoga lessons as set up by their friends or family. Trevor Boris hosts *I Now Pronounce You...*, a same-sex wedding series that takes it a step further by not only chronicling the before and during the ceremony, but also takes a look at the after as well. And of course, the only drag queen talk-show host on television, Crystal Lite, returns for a second season.

Travel is a big part of the fall lineup with David Rocco's *Avventura*, and a new season of *Bump*. One of the featured travel shows this fall, however, is a subject close to the hearts of many a gay man called *Let's Shop*. Host Cheryll Gillespie takes you to thirteen destinations around the world, from Bangkok, to Istanbul, to Paris, to Montréal. What's great about this series is that it not only highlights some of the practical aspects of travel abroad, like looking at the language, culture, customs and aesthetics of a foreign culture, but its focus on shopping gives advice to the one thing that most other travel shows and guides leave out. Between the tips on bargaining with local merchants, to what to look for in terms of quality merchandise and even some of the psychology of holiday shopping, this series is a unique look at going abroad.


Crash Course Yoga

One of the most featured life and style programs on OutTV this fall is *Picture This*. The twist on this design challenge show is that it takes a couple and gives them each a project chosen by their partner, but they can only use the photographs and cut outs provided as a guide. This series has a bit more of an everyday feel, as host Michelle K is the only designer in the picture and the couples aren't showered with famous experts or product placements to complete their tasks.

OutTV's programming wouldn't be complete without their documentaries on the lives of gays and lesbians. Two of the biggest ones coming this fall are the controversial look at the phenomenon known as "bug-chasing" in the acclaimed film *The Gift*, while *This Obedience* focuses on the challenges faced by Anita Hill, the first lesbian Lutheran pastor ordained in the United States.

With the traditional networks' offerings so sparse this fall, both in terms of quality and in its representation of gays and lesbians, we can be glad that we've got OutTV to keep us entertained, and to tell our stories the way they deserve to be told.

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Faith for Everyone

By Ben Benedict

As homosexuals, we have been increasingly marginalized and segregated since the creation of the term just over 100 years ago, fighting to claim both our place in history and in society. As people of faith, we have been revered and persecuted, loved and reviled and told repeatedly that God loves everyone except fags.

I can't speak for God, as some would presume they can but I can speak to the richness of faith that many members of the gay community possess, having suffered numerous trials simply to accept themselves, let alone be accepted by others.

On the parish level the Church's acceptance of homosexuals varies widely, from enthusiastic welcome to outright rejection. Some gay people have been badly hurt by negative attitudes and ignorance in the Church and find participating in regular parish activities difficult. Many gay people who grew up in the Anglican Church, or who have looked to the Church for spiritual nurture, have been turned away by anti-gay prejudice and rhetoric.

Working from a seed of an idea from fifteen years ago—but only formed six months ago—members of Integrity London meet to honour and explore the sexual/spiritual diversity within and around the London region as a way to breach the dichotomy between the church and its treatment of homosexuals and to begin to heal those wounds.

Canada's first Integrity chapter was organized in 1975 and local chapters are now active in several cities across the country. Integrity Canada is a national network of organizations and friends working toward the full inclusion of gay and lesbian people in the life of the Anglican Church of Canada. They are part of the international lesbian and gay Christian movement, encouraging churches around the world to promote the basic human rights of gay and lesbian people and to support their active participation in the life of the Church.

Father Greg Smith, pastor at Christ Church is pleased with the support the group has received, "People are standing up to be recognized. It's not just Christ Church people here. It's the point of Integrity London, it's here for everyone."

Wendell Davidson, a member of the group says there is a "Positive feeling of inclusion in the diocese." There were fifty people at the inaugural meeting in February and the group is currently reaching hundreds of people at this point from all over the diocese. The feelings of religious exclusion are not unique to any one faith so the group is not exclusively Anglican or Christian but open to any who want worship in the Judaeo-Christian tradition in a caring and supportive environment. A highlight for the group occurred in May when they displayed their program at the Diocese of Huron Synod and, although some Integrity London members felt the reception was mixed, they also felt the experience and outreach was positive.

Those who have sought out the group are like the many gays who were forced from their faith upon coming out or felt at odds because they did not fit the typical 'church family' stereotype. "I got away from going to church after not feeling a part of a family or couple. It was wonderful to find a place where I fit in with a great sense of community", says group member Chris Graham.

Father Sylvia's experience is exemplary of the struggles that gay clergy have endured, "I was angry and felt ripped off because here was my choice, love of my partner or love of my church." Hers is a story of endurance in faith and one that has seen changes in the church first hand. "Because of AIDS, a lot of clergy were very anguished about knowing how to be respectful in funeral liturgy, all that paralleled the church," Father Sylvia says. There were those who looked at that great loss and felt challenged by the teachings of the church, challenges that have brought about a highly public schism between fundamentalist and progressives in Christianity, Judaism and Islam. "We're not standing still, we're not just treading water, we're making small steps," Father Sylvia says.

"The one thing I found to be particularly difficult, it was harder to be a lesbian in the church than a Christian in the gay community," says Pam another member of the group, "Everyone here has other issues that are equally important but it is a place where there is common ground and it empowers us by faith put into practice."

"I have someone to talk to with a new vocabulary and a new answer. These are my brothers and sisters in Christ," says Rachael Walker, a newly ordained and heterosexual Anglican Priest serving in an interim ministry, responding as to why she became a part of the group.

Jackie Biggs (left), Jean Peacock, Pam, Wendell Davidson, Kerry [illegible] Sylvia, Jerry Wolfe, Russ Braley, Linda Braley, and Father Greg Smith of Integrity London.

Integrity London offers members a place to feel safe and speak their mind. They are also supportive of straight members trying to reconcile their faith with a belief in equality, and welcoming to queer or queer friendly clergy. "So many of those who are friends of gays are here and being supportive," Father Sylvia says.

The next step for Integrity London is to consolidate the group by the new year, encourage new members to join and to be a resource for the larger community, "But we need to equip ourselves for that," Father Smith says. As part of their ongoing programming, guest clergy have been scheduled for the rest of 2005. The group meets at Christ Church the first Sunday of the month and everyone is welcome.

For more information about Integrity Canada, local chapters or to form your own chapter visit **integritycanada.org**. ▼

Ben Benedict, a recognized professional visual artist, arts journalist and critic, business writer, and public relations consultant within the London region. He is owner and founder of Benedict Creative Communications and can be reached via bcreative.ca.

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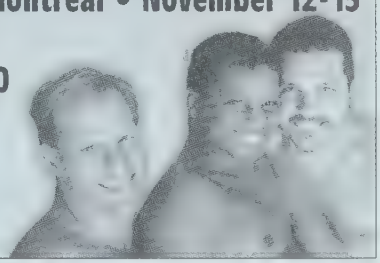

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Aubergell's host, Yvon, is one of the pioneers in Montréal gay bed and breakfasts, having been in operation for the past fifteen years. He joins Andre in operating Sir Montcalm B & B, which saw its first light of day last spring. In both lodgings, guests are sure to find the comfort and cozyness to feel at home.

Aubergell and Sir Montcalm both offer hardwood and heated slate floors, feather beds and a voluptuous ambiance where wonderful antiques—acquired over the years—are well matched to magnificent modern pieces. Other amenities include king and queen beds, a central living room and fully equipped kitchen, private bathrooms and showers and cooling system through out the property. The year 2006 will bring a new pool and jaccuzi installation in the private back yard of the Sir Montcalm. Both B&Bs offer their guests two luxurious master bedroom suites. A generous yet healthy breakfast is served in a non-smoking environment or on a delightful terrace. Internet surfers will find wireless internet available.

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Photos: (top left) Sir Montcalm Dinning Room
(bottom right) Augergell Loft

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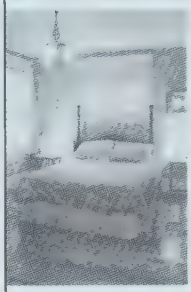

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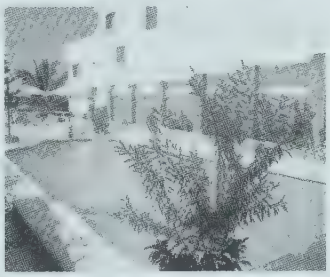

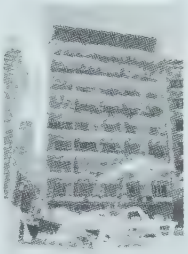

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Safety in Numbers

By Collin Semenoff

It's time for an experiment.

At the very end of this paragraph will come two words to focus on. Read them and then picture the first thing that comes to your mind. Ready? Ok, here it goes: domestic violence.

Now, you see, the first thing that flashed in my mind was the stereotypical drunken husband, slouched in an old brown couch, and wearing a stained 'wife-beater' shirt. I, like many others, have a pre-conceived notion of what constitutes domestic violence. It brings images of that COPS television show where the good-looking officer has to arrest the disorderly straight people.

From left: Jane Oxenbury (Edan Counselling Associates), Sean Alley (GLCSA) and Melissa Luhtanen (Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre).

Now hopefully, dear reader, you're more enlightened than I. And if not, join me in learning that domestic violence affects the GLBT community just as much as it does the straight community. Family violence can include the non-traditional definitions of families as well. We all know of the old adage 'there's safety in numbers', but what about when you're alone with an abusive partner? Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people abuse each other just as much as other people. And now there's a new ray of light for Albertan victims of such abuse to seek help.

Across the province, from small towns to large cities, are a variety of domestic violence help centers. Until recently, information regarding same-sex domestic violence has been limited to an incredibly select few organizations that specialize in the field. No system has been in place to distribute this valuable data and research to non-GLBT organizations across Alberta.

Enter Safety Under the Rainbow. This organisation took advantage of a portion of the two-million dollar provincial government fund set up to spearhead projects across Alberta regarding all types of family violence and bullying. With access to $73,000 in funding, Safety Under the Rainbow plans to provide same-sex domestic violence training seminars for those working in Albertan outreach and violence-education organizations. The program runs from September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2006. Once completed, a much larger number of the provinces' service providers will be trained and better equipped to deal with same-sex domestic violence as well as harassment and bullying.

Jane Oxenbury is a chartered psychologist who helped to develop the proposal and that was ultimately approved for Safety Under the Rainbow. She says sharing information with those assisting GLBTs who have been affected by family violence is crucial: "Part of our job is to develop research in the area, to research what's out there and what's needed; to review; to get agencies opened up to the education, prevention and support of individuals based on family violence; to train people—not individuals, but service providers—and hopefully to create a coalition so that all the groups in Alberta can be linked and everyone will know what other programs are doing and will be able to refer to other programs, and perhaps learn from each other as well."

Many Alberta Groups have stepped up to the plate to assist with Safety Under the Rainbow, proving that there is indeed 'safety in numbers'. Oxenbury adds, "We have everything from a university student who has done lots of research in the area to the CBCA (Child Birth Control Assoc.), Violence Information and Education Centre, GLSCA, Peer Support Services for Abused Women, the Calgary Distress Centre… we have tons of people that have been really supportive of the way we have been doing this work. It's a huge partnership. We're really fortunate."

Not as fortunate, though, are those affected by violence. In statistics remarkably similar to straight-couple violence, an average of twenty-five to thirty-three per cent of same-sex couples report being affected by or a party to domestic violence. While lesbian and gay instances are quite similar in number to each other, the form of each abuse differs with men being more physical and women more verbal and psychological. These statistics too, are close to stats for heterosexual cases. Jane Oxenbury isn't surprised either, admitting "(It) makes sense because it doesn't matter what your sexual orientation is, you still learn that power over other people works."

So, what constitutes abuse? Again, Oxenbury levels the playing field: "When it comes to domestic family violence, we're talking the same as you would be in a heterosexual relationship. We're talking physical, verbal, emotional, psychological, sexual, financial, (and) spiritual. Control issues, manipulative issues, all of that is part and parcel of domestic violence whether you're gay or straight."

While the issues can sometimes remain the same, dealing with victims of same-sex domestic violence can vary greatly. Oxenbury admits that the data itself on such abuse is sparse. Often, people who have come out as homosexuals can still find it hard to come out again as victims of domestic violence. Safety Under the Rainbow will also help gather and distribute better data and ways of dealing with GLBT victims of this violence.

The organization is also preparing to train people on how to better help GLBT youth. Bullying and harassment because of sexual discrimination brings forth the potential for these youth to experience or consider depression, suicide, truancy from school and drug/alcohol abuse. It seems only fitting for Safety Under the Rainbow to include Alberta youth in its program training when one considers that the $73,000 in funding was received from Alberta Children's Services.

Jane Oxenbury says she was amazed at how quickly the Alberta government responded to the proposal that became Safety Under the Rainbow. In fact, she says it was Premier Ralph Klein that called forth the Alberta Round Table on Family Violence and Bullying, from which the idea to propose Safety Under the Rainbow was formed. Although it may seem like a back-handed form of recognizing GLBT couples from a government that has stood against legalizing such partnerships, the fact remains that help will soon be better given and personalised to those who need it.

With centers across the province sharing information and receiving training on how to personalize the services they give to members of the GLBT community, Safety Under the Rainbow will strengthen not only the ties between these separate entities but also the people affected by domestic violence and bullying. By raising awareness of the issue of abuse in the GLBT communities, it won't be just the numbers of service providers in outreach programs becoming enlightened. It will be people like you and me.

I know I won't think of the same stereotypical images next time someone plays that word association game with me.

For more Information on Safety Under the Rainbow, contact Jane Oxenbury at (403) 255-7004. You can also visit **vigorcalgary.com**, **youthsafe.net** and **pssaw.org**. ▼

Collin Semenoff is a freelance writer [illegible]

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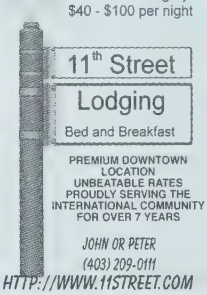

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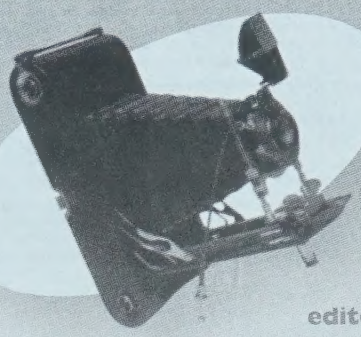

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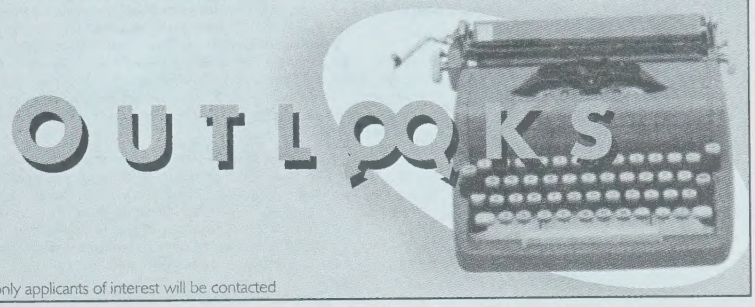

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After a short drive, Nick finds himself in the rear as the lead car has taken him down a quiet deserted country lane. Now this might be a little scary to most people but Nick is happy to follow the lead of the stranger. This marks the beginning of Nick's adventure and he willingly submits to the stranger's advances. In fact, this new friend knows exactly how to please Nick.

And they both prove their versatility and flexibility when more than a road map is spread over the hood of the car.

Eventually finding his way again, Nick arrives in Frankfurt and heads straight for 2Nite Men's Bar, a local gay pub. Thirsty from his long road trip and hot activities, Nick asks for local information, orders a cool beer and buys one for the bartender. Like all bartenders, this local resident is full of what Nick needs to know and he's soon out and about again in search of more fun.

After some window-shopping, the next stop is another gay bar called Manhattens. This time Nick is obviously recognized as the classic fresh meat in town as several locals make eye contact with Nick and blatantly hit on him. In no time at all a handsome young local hottie approaches and starts a conversation with Nick. His new friend is anxious to help show Nick around and yet again Nick follows the lead without question. A trip to the washroom and a game of pinball take on a new meaning when these two hot bodies connect. The bells ring and the lights flash as Nick scores again.

This tourist has more stamina than the Energizer Bunny and soon Nick is back wandering the streets of Frankfurt. At the Oscar Wilde bookstore—in search of a good book—it's inevitable that Nick finds an attractive customer to engage in conversation. This time it's a hunky blond stud who leads the way for Nick once again. Reading is off the agenda and a hot encounter in a stairwell proves better than a good book.

As a stranger in the big city, Nick proves that he is capable of finding his way around as long as there is a local gay man prepared to lend a hand or more. The only drawback is he'll probably need a holiday to recover from his adventures in Frankfurt and the non-stop action.

Review sponsored by Express Video
#202 - 11745 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton
(780) 482-7480 Email: exec.express@shaw.ca

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★★ SET: ★★★★
BODIES: ★★★★★ STORY: ★★★
ACTION SCENES: ★★★★

Ram Tough

From: Hot House Video

Featuring: *Alex Collack, Alex Fuerte, Kent Larson, Shane Rollins, Arpad Miklos, Ace Hanson, Jason Kingsley, Jason Hawke, Corbin Michaels*

Running Time: *105 minutes*

Overalls, toolboxes and muscular, sweaty bodies abound in this story, which is set on the construction sites of a major city. Every kind of tradesman is featured including plumbers, carpenters, electricians and painters. With a star- studded cast of extremely muscular, handsome and horny men, these tools of the trade are exceptional.

When plumber Kent Larson is underneath a sink trying to fix a leaking pipe, anything could happen. His hot young assistant is ready and willing to lend a hand or pass the wrench when necessary. However, the heat in this building is turned up too high and the first job for this young apprentice is to cool Kent down. This requires lowering the top of Kent's overalls to allow air to circulate. In no time at all this young trainee proves he has the perfect tool ready for Kent and he's just waiting for his boss to need it. When Kent surfaces from under the sink he is impressed by the young man's readiness and a convenient workbench nearby provides a flat surface for the boss to go to work on his next job. Kent proves why his years of experience make him the boss.

At another construction site, Ace Benson is just arriving at his carpentry workshop to find another worker waiting at the front door. It turns out that Ace, in addition to being the woodworker, is also the local drug dealer. Once inside, Ace provides his customer with the small package and receives the cash but demands more than just money in payment for his really good stuff. The customer is willing to oblige and quickly removes Ace's clothes to discover the big package that he really came to enjoy. As a repeat customer he knew what to expect and is eager to please his hot and hung supplier.

Electrical extension cords are everywhere on the floor as Corbin Michaels takes a lunch break. His co-worker Jason Hawke is trying to tidy up the mess while Corbin enjoys a sandwich break. But Jason wants help with some of the work as two sets of hands are better than one. Reluctantly, Corbin stops eating to lend a hand but demands some personal service first. Revealing his perfect ten-inch tool, Corbin demands special attention before they clean up the job site. Jason is happy to please his co-worker and the two hot studs create some real electricity.

Three painters arrive together in a van at their jobsite ready to start applying a fresh coat of paint for their customer. After setting up their ladders, scaffolding and drop sheets, it's time for a break before the painting begins in earnest. This beefcake threesome quickly proves that a good painter must have a brush with a long, hard handle ready at all times. The scaffolding provides a great prop for three muscular bodies to find some interesting positions for the job at hand.

This movie will make you wonder what's up when you pass a construction site and there are no workmen to be seen. You might also want to stay at home while your renovations or repairs are being completed.

Review sponsored by www.MaleDVD.ca, Canada's largest online XXX gay DVD rental service

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★★ SET: ★★★★
BODIES: ★★★★★ STORY: ★★★
ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★

HAPPENINGS AND KUDOS VANCOUVER

Upcoming fundraising Events

A Loving Spoonful benefits from your great dining discoveries. Food and wine lovers are invited to take their seats this fall and eat up the deals offered by Yaletown's top restaurants during a ten-day dining promotion **October 3 - 13**. The first annual ***Taste of Yaletown*** event, presented by **American Express**, will highlight the quality, variety and hospitality of the area's creative chefs. Participating restaurants – from French Bistro and Italian Enoteca to Japanese Izakaya and Southern Barbecue – will offer a cornucopia of special menus, progressive tastings, gift certificates, complimentary appetizers and desserts. 10% of one Thanksgiving weekend evening (Oct 7-10) will be donated to A Loving Spoonful. **www.alovingspoonful.org**

The Shooting Stars Foundation is proud to announce our first annual ***UNDERCOVER*** wine tasting event, with a twist! This is your invitation to attend a unique, entertaining wine tasting at **7:30 pm, Friday, November 4th**, at the **Vancouver Rowing Club** in glorious Stanley Park, for just **$25**. Targeting wine with the most *"bang for your buck"* (all under $14), all wines will be *"under cover"*, or hidden from view throughout the tasting with patrons voting on their favourites as they enjoy the latin jazz sounds of **The Rumba Calzada Trio**. During the final half hour the covers come off and all the great value labels will be revealed. All proceeds to benefit the Shooting Stars Foundation in support of local service AIDS agencies. **www.shootingstarsfoundation.org**

Producing Stellar Results

6th Annual Prairie Fairies Fowl Supper By the time this issue comes out this event may be sold out, but if not, run, do not walk to the PumpJack Pub or Little Sisters and get your very own ticket to this year's most fun-filled evening, all the while raising money for AIDS agencies. The cost for the Supper is a mere **$35**. Join Linda and Doreen Fillmore at the Hellenic Community Centre on **Saturday, November 12th**, for this year's theme Supper, ***Viva Las Fillmore***, along with 650 other souls for an evening you will not soon forget. **www.fillmorefamily.ca**

Recent fundraising results

CruiseyT raises thousands for non-profits, again!

CruiseyT Productions has recently announced donations for the 2005 season totalling some **$11,199**. A total of **$8199** has been donated to **A Loving Spoonful**, plus $1000 to Vancouver Pride Society, $1000 to Gordon Fraser's sandwich program through St. John's Church, $500 to Little Sisters' Defense Fund, and $500 to the upcoming Prairie Fairies Fowl Supper. Since the inception of CruiseyT, a total of **$582,000** has been donated to worthy causes and direct service agencies. Check out **www.cruiseyt.com** early next year for the 2006 cruise schedule.

Buzzcuts for Pride

Velvet and **Tomasina** performed all the magic involved in ***Buzzcuts for Pride***, and raised a total of **$752** for **Vancouver Pride Society** during this Pride Week event, held at the **PumpJack Pub**.

PumpJack BLUE BALLS Party

This party held Sept. 2nd to support the thrilling **Pacific Cup** slowpitch tournament raised **$645** through this unique fundraiser: Blue leather cock rings were sold at the door, as created by **Michael** at **Priape**, with special thanks to **John Lait** for donating his hide with yet more thanks to **Labatt** and **Donal** of **Priape**.

This monthly community feature sponsored by your friends at:

PUMPJACK VANCOUVER DIVERSITY

Co-sponsors:

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OUTLOOKS

Thank you for supporting our Vancouver & area community events!

Let us know about YOUR upcoming non-profit AIDS & GLBT fundraising event and recent financial results.
Please email us your next month info & logo to: PumpJackEvents@shaw.ca by the 10th of each month.

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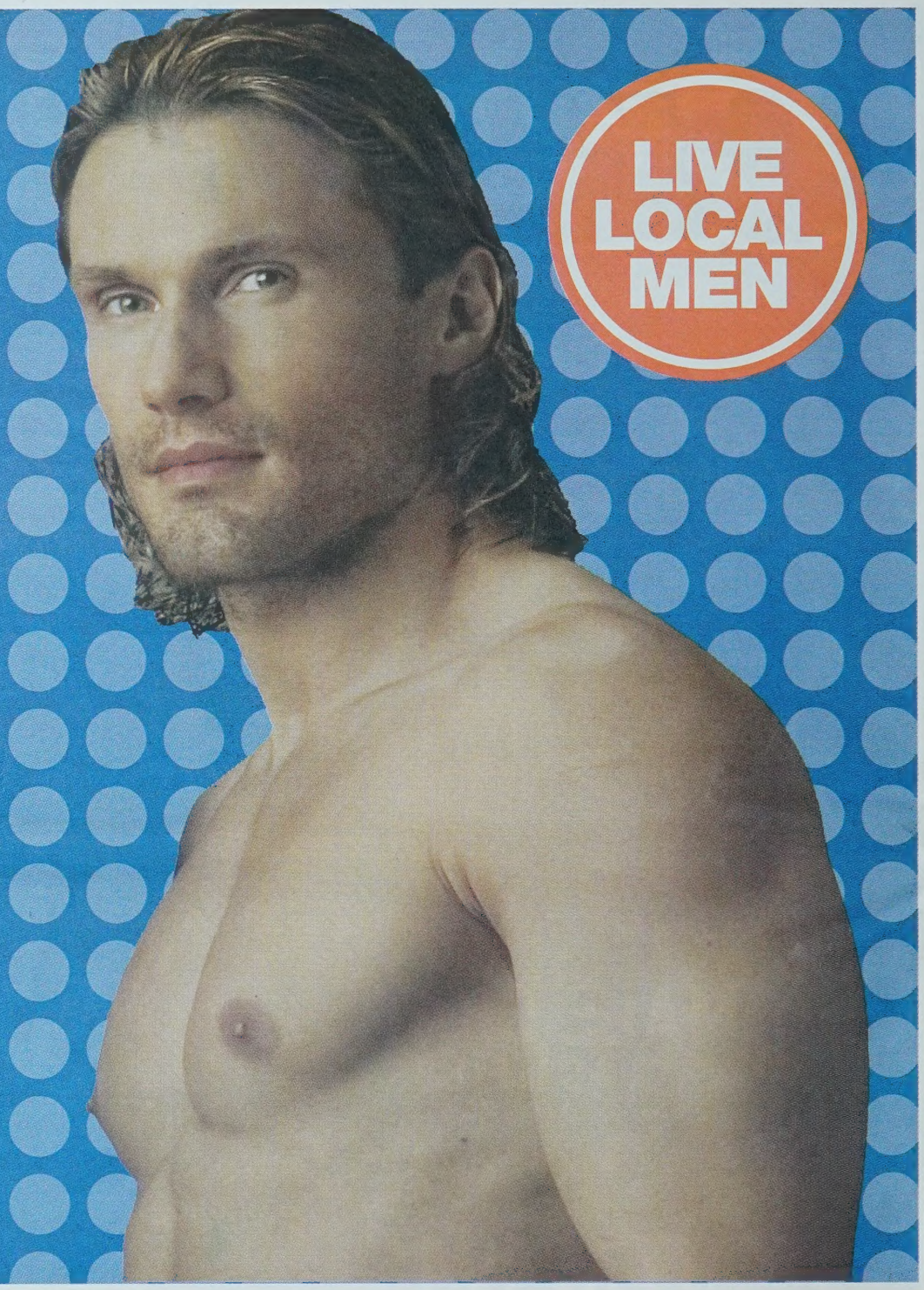

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